Author’s response to reviews

Title: Serum IL8 is not associated with cardiovascular events but with all-cause mortality

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Enclosed please find a revised version of our manuscript (BCAR-D-18-00667RI) entitled “Serum IL8 is not associated with cardiovascular events but with all-cause mortality” we would like to submit for publication on BMC Cardiovascular Disorders.

In the revised version we have addressed all the comments raised by the Editorial. In particular:

1. Abstract headings have been changed (Background, Methods, Results and Conclusions)

2. Abbreviations list have been moved to page 21.

3. Subheadings have been replaced: Background (page 3), Methods (page 5)

4. A complete declarations section have been now included with all the required sub-sections (Page 21-23)
5. The subheading “Conclusions” have now been incorporated in page 20.

6. A section describing “Additional files” has been added to page 25.

- Please can you confirm whether informed consent was obtained a second time for the second part of your study - the questionnaire. Please detail whether this consent was verbal or written. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation. Please include all this information in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section.

Participants in this cohort study were randomly selected from all 60-year-olds residing in Stockholm County between August 1997 and December 1998; every third man and woman living in Stockholm County born between July 1, 1937, and June 31, 1938 (60 years old), were invited to participate in a study aiming to increase knowledge about risk factors for cardiovascular disease. The questionnaire and the health screening were performed at the same time at study start. All study participants received an invitation letter with a written description of the study and were asked to contact the responsible research nurse to book a time to fill in the questionnaire and undergo the health screening. At the time the study was designed written consent form were only used in studies where new drugs were tested. Given the observational nature of our study only verbal informed consent was obtained from each study participant [1]. The Ethical Committee at Karolinska Institutet has approved the consent procedure and the original study in 1996 (reference number 96–398) and additional analyses throughout the years (reference numbers 99–306, 03–100 and 03–115), the latest approval in 2016 to acquire data from the national registries related to non-cardiovascular diseases (reference numbers 16/205-31/2).

All clinical investigations were conducted according to the principles expressed in the Declaration of Helsinki. Several researchers have used the 60 years old cohort data [2-10].
On behalf of the coauthors, I thank you for reviewing our manuscript. We hope that our work is now suitable for publication in BMC Cardiovascular Disorders.

Kind regards,

Ilais Moreno Velasquez

References


