Author’s response to reviews

Title: The Association of Religious Affiliation with Cholesterol Levels among South Asians: The Mediators of Atherosclerosis in South Asians Living in America Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

My co-authors and I are grateful for your continued interest in our manuscript for publication in BMC Cardiovascular Disorders. Please find below our point-by-point responses to your comments.

Editor Comments:

1. Please remove any files from the file inventory which you do not wish to see published.

Response: We have uploaded only the necessary files.

2. Please clarify whether the informed consent was written or verbal and include a statement in ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’. If the consent was verbal please give a reason for this and whether the Ethics Board approved it.

Response: Written informed consent was obtained from the participants. We have added this information to the statement in ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’.
3. In the Funding section of the Declarations please indicate the role of the funding body in the
design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the
manuscript. If no specific funding was received for this study, please clearly indicate this in the
Funding section.

Response: We received funding for the study however the funding body did not play a role in
this study. We have added a sentence in the “Funding” section.

4. Please use (unique) initials only rather than names in the Authors’ contributions section.

Response: We have made the requested changes.

5. Please move your ‘List of Abbreviations’ section to follow the Conclusions.

Response: We have moved it as requested.

6. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not
contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethrough or text in different colours. All
relevant tables and figures should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should
remain uploaded as separate files. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please
include the information in the designated input box only.

Response: We have uploaded a clean version (including line numbers) of the manuscript. We
have two tables (Table 1, Table 2) and one figure (Figure 1) in addition to the manuscript. Figure
legends appear after the ‘References’ section in the manuscript.

We would like to thank the editors and reviewers once again for their continued help and
suggestions. We look forward to your final decision.

Sincerely,

Grishma Hirode and Alka Kanaya