Author’s response to reviews

Title: Relative importance of four functional measures as predictors of 15-year mortality in the older Dutch population

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Third Letter to the reviewers and editor:

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Relative importance of lower-body performance, handgrip strength, lung function, and self-reported functional limitations as predictors of 15-year mortality in the older Dutch population

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BMC Geriatrics
Dear editor,

We appreciate your positive judgment on our manuscript again and have included all your good comments and advices.

Below we give our responses with associated changes in the manuscript.

We hope that you will find our manuscript ready for publication and we look forward to your decision.

Thank you for all your help.

Kind regards,
on behalf of the co-authors, including Dorly Deeg and Natasja Schoor,
Marelise

Please find below our responses to the Editor comments:

1. Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in the "Ethics and Consent to Participate" section of your declarations. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an ethics committee or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the committee or a reference to the relevant legislation.

Response: We confirm that a written informed consent was obtained from all participants of this study. We added this to the section of "Ethics and Consent to Participate" section of our declarations.

2. Please amend the statement in the "Consent for publication" section, as this refers to consent obtained to publish potentially-identifying information (of patients/participants). If your manuscript does not contain any individual person’s identifiable data or information, please state “Not applicable” under this section.

Response: we changed the "Consent for publication" section into "Not applicable"
3. Figure files should contain only the image/graphic, as well as any associated keys/annotations. Where titles/legends are present within the figure files, please remove them.

Reaction: We removed the titles and legends from the figures and placed them in the legends of the manuscript.

4. Please remove any additional files you do not want published alongside your manuscript, including cover/response letters.

Response: We removed all additional files we do not want to publish alongside our manuscript.

5. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Response: We will perform accordingly. Thank you for these advices.