Author’s response to reviews

Title: The Prevalence of Obesity in Older Adults in Iran: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Authors:
Aliakbar Vaisi-Raygani (wiza206@gmail.com)
Masoud Mohammadi (masoud.mohammadi1989@yahoo.com)
Rostam Jalali (Rostam@gmail.com)
Akram Ghobadi (Ghobadi@gmail.com)
Nader Salari (Salari@gmail.com)

Version: 4 Date: 03 Nov 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Editor Comments: We would accept your justification of limiting the search to post-2000, however, you need to be clear in your manuscript that this is what you have done, and clearly outline your reasoning for doing so, and the aspects of the studies that make them below the threshold of quality.

Respond: Added: Page 4, para 2

In studies in Iran, articles published before about 2000 contain outdated information and are not comparable in quality to more recent studies. Also, most of these studies were not available in search sources and the researchers failed to gain access to those resources. Thus, the authors restricted the study to beyond 2000 to keep the information up-to-date and available.

Editor Comments: In terms of the quality assessment of the publications that are generated through your searching, you have still not clearly outlined how you assessed the quality, what criteria you applied, and how you excluded the studies not included.

Respond: Added: Page 5, para 2

Regarding the scores for each question, score 1 was assigned to a positive answer to the index and score 0 to negative answers. Accordingly, the maximum quality score of 32 was considered, and papers with a score of less than 14 were considered to have low quality, and thus excluded from the study. In evaluating the articles through the STROBE criteria, only the appropriateness and grading of the writing of the articles have been considered for this criterion. No studies have
been excluded from the quality assessment and so the quality score is considered as low as the study.

Editor Comments: The English expression should be updated.

Respond: The text is again reviewed by the Native Editor and a certificate is sent