Author’s response to reviews

Title: Physical activity, smoking, and genetic predisposition to obesity in people from Pakistan: The PROMIS Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Tregouet,

We are pleased to learn that the reviewers and you were satisfied with our responses in relation to their queries. Please find below our response to the queries raised.

1. Please can you add all author email addresses to the title page.

Answer: Dear editor we have updated the information on the title page of manuscript.

Email addresses of all co-authors

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2. In the methods section of your manuscript, please can you give the full names of the regional ethical review committees at each of the centres across Pakistan that were involved in and approved the study.

Answer: We have added the relevant information “In addition to the institutional review board (IRB) at CNCD, Karachi, IRBs at National Institute of Cardiovascular Disorders, Karachi, Punjab Institute of Cardiology, Lahore, and Tabba Heart Institute, Karachi approved the study” in the suggested method section.

3. Please can you upload an English copy of the questionnaire as an additional file.

Answer: We have uploaded the English copy of the relevant questionnaire information.

4. STROBE guidelines In accordance with BioMed Central editorial policies (http://www.biomedcentral.com/about/editorialpolicies#StandardsofReporting), could you please ensure your manuscript reporting adheres to STROBE guidelines (http://www.strobe-statement.org/) for reporting observational research. This is so your methodology can be fully evaluated and utilized. Can you please include a completed STROBE checklist as an additional file when submitting your revised manuscript? Please note that the completed STROBE checklist should refer to specific page numbers in your manuscript where the relevant information can be found.

Answer: We have uploaded the Strobe document with relevant information.

5. Please can you change conflict of interest to competing interests? Please include any commercial funding, including that from Pfizer, in this section.

Competing interest

The authors declare that there is no competing interest associated with this manuscript.

6. Please can you describe the contents of all additional and supplementary files in the main text of the manuscript after References? Please note these descriptions should be detailed
enough to allow readers to determine exactly what data/information can be found in these files.

Answer: We have updated the relevant information in the manuscript after reference section, including

Additional files

Table S1: Quality control descriptive of 95 BMI associated SNPs in the PROMIS Cohort (N= 16,157).

Table S2 Associations of the 95 SNPs on BMI by different strata of smoking (non-smokers vs current smokers) in control participants from PROMIS (N= 8,219)

Table S3 Association of individual 95 SNPs with different strata of physical activity on BMI in control (N= 6,784) participants from PROMIS.

Table S4 Quality control information for the included SNPs (95 published BMI-associated) that were directly genotyped and also the imputed data of the SNPs for which imputation was performed in the PROMIS Cohort (N= 16,157).

7. Please can you revise the Authors' contributions section using the guidelines below and ensure each author is referred to in this section using their initials.

Answer: We have re-written the author contributions by including “

Authors’ contributions to manuscript

SA, WZ, FR, PWF and DS analyzed and interpreted the data, and drafted the manuscript. SA, WZ, FR, PWF and DS contributed to the conception and design of the study. All authors including SA, WZ, FR, AR, MS, MZ, NS, NYM, KSZ, MI, SZR, FM, BH, MSL, FA, SUK, PF, PWF and DS contributed to the interpretation of data, critical review and approved the final version of manuscript to be published.”

8. Please can you add an Availability of supporting data section to your manuscript using the guidelines below?

Answer: We have added the following statement in the manuscript

“Availability of data and materials
“The raw data are not publicly available owing to the study's data access policies. However, analyses in the PROMIS dataset can be requested by contacting the corresponding author”