Author’s response to reviews

Title: Noninvasive Indices for Predicting Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease

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Author’s response to reviews:

January 28, 2020

Dr. Massimo Torreggiani
Associate Editor
BMC Nephrology

Drs. Hayley Henderson and Doris Cuckovic
Editors-In-Chief
BMC Nephrology

Dear Prof. Torreggiani,

Manuscript Number: BNEP-D-19-00946R1
Manuscript Title: Noninvasive Indices for Predicting Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease.

Comments to the author(s):
1. In the methods section, you state that consent was waived due to the retrospective nature of the study, whilst in the declarations you state that informed consent was obtained.

Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your Methods and Ethics approval and consent to participate sections. If consent was verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. Please clarify if the patients consented to analysis of their medical records and if any further permission from
the hospital was required.

Please also confirm under your Ethics and consent for participation statement whether the databases accessed and used in your study are public databases or whether permission had been required for accessing them. If permission was obtained, please clearly state this in your manuscript, including the name of the organization which granted the permission.

Response: We thank the Editor for this appropriate comment. Because the present study was a retrospective one, the requirement of informed consents was waived by the institutional review board (review number: EUMC 2017-05-070-001). Thus we corrected the mistakenly written statement in the Declaration section as follows.

[line 18 page 16] The present study was approved by the institutional review board (EUMC 2017-05-070-001) and was conducted according to the ethical guidelines of the World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki. Patients’ informed consent was waived because of the retrospective nature of the study.

In addition, we were able to access to the de-identified database after the present study was approved by the institutional review board. Upon approval, additional permission from a third party was not required for the medical record review.

2. Thank you for including a Funding heading for the Declarations section. Please also state the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript. Please note that the “role” of any given funding body specifies any function beyond the direct funding of aspects of the research or presentation of the manuscript.
Response: We thank the Editor for this relevant comment. The Declaration has been revised with additional comments as follows.

[line 5 page 17] This funding source had no role in the design of this study and did not have any role during its execution, analyses, interpretation of the data, or decision to submit results.

3. When submitting your revised manuscript please ensure you do so as a single clean copy without any tracked changes, colored or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.
Response: We thank the Editor for this comment. We submitted a single clean copy.

Sincerely,
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