Author’s response to reviews

Title: "Reduced fetal growth velocities and the association with neonatal outcomes in appropriate-for-gestational-age neonates: a retrospective cohort study"

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Version: 3 Date: 27 Dec 2018

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Reply to reviewer:

Q1/The authors have corrected or added all the additional information needed to complete their manuscript. However, this reviewer would suggest use of ‘actual values’ instead of ‘absolute
values' in the Methods section as 'absolute values' implied 'without the sign' in mathematical descriptions.

A1/ We sincerely thank the reviewer for the effort taken in reviewing our manuscript and his thorough remarks highlighting certain issues in the manuscript. We would like to respond to his question and hereby submit a revised manuscript taking into considerations the reviewer’s comment.

We have corrected the sentence: “absolute values” into “actual values” in the Methods section.

Editorial comments:

Q1. Please include the email addresses of all authors on the title page of your manuscript.

A1/ We have included the email addresses of all authors on the title page.

Q2. Please clarify whether permission was obtained to access the data in the two databases use for your study, in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section.

A2/ We have clarified that the permission was obtained to access data in both databases. (line 376)

Q3. Please note the Availability of data statement should detail the location of any RAW data underlying the conclusions made in this study. We note that only summarized data is presented in this manuscript, so we would like to ask that you amend this statement. Please note that we strongly encourage authors to share their data in a publicly available repository as this increases the visibility of your data/study. If you do not wish to share your data (whether in a repository, supplementary files, or within the manuscript), please state this along with the reason.

A3/ We have added the availability of data statement. The dataset used and analyzed during the current study is available from the corresponding author on reasonable request. (line 386)

Q4. Please proofread your manuscript and that when you upload ensure that your revised submission is in the final form for publication. Please remove any tracked changes, colored text, or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.
A4/ We have removed any tracked changes, colored text, underlining, highlighting in the manuscript.

We have proofread the manuscript and changed a few grammatical changes

Page 4, line 92: changed ‘smalleness’ into ‘smallness’

Page 6, line 144: changed ‘20wks’ into ‘20 weeks’

Page 6, line 151: changed ‘absolute’ into ‘actual’

Page 7, line 172: changed ‘min’ into ‘minutes’

The main manuscript has been edited as recommended. Thank you for the comments that have been taken into consideration to improve the quality of our manuscript.