Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association of Car Ownership and Physical Activity across the Spectrum of Human Development: Modeling the Epidemiologic Transition Study (METS)

Authors:

David A Shoham (dshoham@luc.edu)
Lara R Dugas (ldugas@luc.edu)
Pascal Bovet (pascal.bovet@chuv.ch)
Terrence E Forrester (terrence.forrester@uwimona.edu.jm)
Estelle V Lambert (Vicki.Lambert@uct.ac.za)
Jacob Plange-Rhule (jprhule@africaonline.com.gh)
Dale A Schoeller (dschoell@nutrisci.wisc.edu)
Soren Brage (soren.brage@mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk)
Ulf Ecklund (Ulf.Ekelund@mrc-epid.cam.ac.uk)
Ramon A Durazo-Arvizu (rdurazo@luc.edu)
Richard S Cooper (rcooper@luc.edu)
Amy Luke (aluke@luc.edu)

Version: 2 Date: 16 July 2014

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Editor, BMC Public Health

RE: Manuscript submission

Dear Editor,

We are pleased to submit the attached manuscript, entitled “The Association of Car Ownership and Physical Activity across the Spectrum of Human Development: Modeling the Epidemiologic Transition Study (METS).” Please note that the requested revisions to the document regarding ethics approval, conflicts of interest, and line numbering have been added to the original version dated July 14 2014.

We have chosen BMC Public Health as our target journal because of its open-access model and high standards of peer-review. We expect that this paper will add to a small but growing body of literature that examines reasons for differences in physical activity (PA) in different contexts. Our findings show that car owners have similar levels of PA across 5 very different socioeconomic contexts, but that non-owners of cars differ widely in PA levels.

As the first author of this publication, I can attest that none of the authors has a conflict of interest to report. Our work is also approved by Loyola and the relevant site-specific IRBs, as reflected in the revised document.

Should you wish to contact me, I can be reached at 708-327-9006, or dshoham@luc.edu.

Sincerely,

David Shoham, PhD MSPH
Associate Professor of Epidemiology
Department of Public Health Sciences
Loyola University Chicago