Author's response to reviews

Title: A comparison of indices of glucose metabolism in five black populations: Data from Modeling the Epidemiologic Transition Study (METS).

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Author's response to reviews:

July 7, 2015

Diana Marshall
Senior Managing Editor
BMC Public Health

Dear Dr. Marshall

Thank you for allowing us to resubmit our manuscript “4486119841601026- A comparison of indices of glucose metabolism in five black populations: Data from Modeling the Epidemiologic Transition Study (METS).” We have made considerable edits to our manuscript in line with the reviewers suggestions and comments and provide a point-by-point summary of these edits.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Lara Dugas, PhD, MPH
Department of Public Health Sciences
"Title: The title “A comparison of diabetes in five black populations?? does not match with the aim, results or conclusions mentioned in the abstract. Suggest changing the title to reflect the purpose of examining the relationship between indices of glucose metabolism and plasma glucose in five black populations.

We have changed the title to reflect the data from our paper. It now reads: “A comparison of indices of glucose metabolism in five black populations: Data from Modeling the Epidemiologic Transition Study (METS).”

Background: The aim of the study ??.. . The aim is not clear. Suggest rephrasing it as ?to examine the relationship of plasma glucose with indices of glucose metabolism?.

We have changed the aim to read: “. The aim of this study was to examine plasma glucose, with indices of glucose metabolism in young adults of African origin from 5 different countries.”

Methods: The authors mentioned as young adults in the background, how young are they? Please specify the age range of the participants and gender distribution of the 667 participants.

We have included the mean participant age (34.8 ± 6.3 yr).

Results: Please provide the full form of BMI when the term is introduced. Min/d, what does the ?d? stand for?

We have provided the full form of BMI and min/d, prior to the abbreviated use.

Manuscript:

Results: Diabetes prevalence in Table 1 needs to be interpreted. Suggest repeating the regression analysis after excluding those with diabetes in a supplementary analysis.

Thank you for this suggestion, we have provided an interpretation of Table 1 and excluded diabetic patients from the regression analysis.

Discussion: Authors have described the differential relationship between various metabolic indices and glucose. Suggest providing an explanation (speculation based on previous literature) for the variable relationship.

We have added several references and suggested that the differential relationship is as a result of disparate socio-economic development between our 5 cohorts/
Table 3: Suggest avoiding the term ?HTN? which is not a standard abbreviation.

We have removed the term hypertension and provided the full form (hypertension) instead.

Additional Editorial Request:

1.) Copyediting: We recommend that you copyedit the paper to improve the style of written English. If this is not possible, you may need to use a professional language editing service. For authors who wish to have the language in their manuscript edited by a native-English speaker with scientific expertise, BioMed Central recommends Edanz (www.edanzediting.com/bmc1). BioMed Central has negotiated a 10% discount to the fee charged to BioMed Central authors by Edanz. Use of an editing service is neither a requirement nor a guarantee of acceptance for publication. For more information, see our FAQ on language editing services at http://www.biomedcentral.com/authors/authorfaq/editing.

Thank you for this comment, the paper has been edited by several native English speaking authors.