Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence and Correlates of Diagnosed and Undiagnosed Hypertension in the Indigenous Kuna Population of Panamá

Authors:

Daniel Hanna (dhanna@mcw.edu)
Rebekah Walker (rebwalker@mcw.edu)
Brittany Smalls (Brittany.Smalls@uky.edu)
Jennifer Campbell (jacampbell@mcw.edu)
Aprill Dawson (azdawson@mcw.edu)
Leonard Egede (legede@mcw.edu)

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Author’s response to reviews:

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Dear Dr. Barling,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide additional revisions and look forward to the publication of the manuscript. A response to each revision is noted in bold text below.

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Assistant Editor Revisions

1. Consent: Please confirm in the section 'Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate' whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your manuscript. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.

   We added a statement to the Research Approvals portion of the Methods section that verbal consent was obtained from participants, and that this procedure was approved by the IRB. We
also added this information to the Ethics approval and consent to participation section of the Declarations.

2. Overlap

-- Please ensure the methods are cited.

The Panamanian survey from which some questions were adapted is cited (reference number 26) in the description of data collection.

-- We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__link.springer.com_article_10.1007-252Fs40615-2D019-2D00573-2D0&d=DwIGaQ&c=aFamLASxMIDYjNgIYHTMV0iqFn3z4pVFYPQkgsbw4Y&r=-Td5vZ8rSCpHqJ1Jv5Ag&m=P35UfDHu2GcGX5DIOrw6kT8_tcdSRGTcD1-YS3bCE52s&s=xNp5fnlrpmqL2IRIQ4cDpke6kQ9rlEpmw7w0rvv0sk&e=

This overlap mainly exists in the methods section. While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in this publication, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. If there is overlap in the Methods section, please ensure to summarize the methods and cite the source. Please rephrase these sections to minimize overlap.

We have rephrased the methods section, and summarized sections that are similar to prior publications with a citation to that publication (reference number 27) to minimize overlap.

3. Map Attribution

-- Please state in the cover letter whether the map depicted in figure 1 is your own or taken from another source. If taken from another source please acknowledge the source in the figure legend, and if it is under copyright also state the written permission given to use and adapt it. If the above conditions are not met the image needs to be removed. Please note the editors may request proof of permission at any time.

The authors maintain copyright license to use and adapt the map depicted in Figure 1. The image is licensed under ID #192515131, License: Standard.

4. Questionnaire
-- Please clarify whether the questionnaire used in your study was developed for this study or has previously been published elsewhere. If the questionnaire has been published elsewhere please provide a reference to it in your manuscript, if the questionnaire was developed for this study please upload an English language version as a supplementary file.

The questionnaire used in the study is a compilation of previously validated surveys that have been published previously and references for each component are included in the manuscript.

5. Authors Contributions

-- Please include a statement in the Authors' contributions section to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript, and ensure that this is the case.

This is the case and has been stated in the author’s contributions section.

6. Funding

-- In the section 'Funding', please also describe the role of the funding body/bodies in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

A statement has been added to the funding section stating the funding body did not participate in collection, analysis, interpretation, or writing of the manuscript.

7. Abbreviations

-- If abbreviations are used in the text they should be defined in the text at first use, and a list of abbreviations should be provided just before the Declarations.

All abbreviations are first defined in the text and the list of abbreviations has been moved to just before the Declarations.

8. Reformat Abstract

-- Please change Objective to Background.

This has been updated
-- Please also remove the declarations from the title page. These should be placed after the abbreviations.

Declarations have been removed from the title page and only appear in the Declarations section.

9. Clean Manuscript: At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files. Please ensure that all figures, tables and additional/supplementary files are cited within the text.

The version provided is a clean manuscript and the figure has been uploaded as a separate file.

Leonard E. Egede, MD, MS
Professor of Medicine & Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine
Tel: 414-805-0840
Email: legede@mcw.edu