Author’s response to reviews

Title: C-reactive protein mediates the association between leisure-time physical activity and lung function in middle-aged and older adults

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your nice comments. Following your suggestions, we have made careful modifications on the manuscript. We hope that the manuscript will meet the standard for publication.

Below you will find our point-by-point responses to your comments.

Yours sincerely,

Yili Wu

1. Acknowledgements

-- Please remove the funding information from the Acknowledgements as it is already included in the Funding section.

Reply: We have removed the funding information from the Acknowledgements.

-- Please move the following statement to your Availability of data and material section: This research uses data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA). ELSA was
developed by a team of researchers based at the NatCen Social Research, University College London and the Institute for Fiscal Studies. The data were collected by NatCen Social Research.'

Reply: We have moved this statement to the Methods section.(Line 105-107, 110)

2. Funding

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

Reply: It has been added in the Funding section. (Line 318-320)

3. Authors' Contributions

Currently, the contributions of authors [WF] do not automatically qualify them for authorship. In the section “Authors’ contributions”, please provide further clarifications on their contributions, and see our guidelines for authorship below.

Reply: Following the guidelines for authorship, we revised the Author's Contributions. (Line 328-332)