Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association between Metabolic Syndrome and Knee Osteoarthritis: A Cross-sectional Study

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Replies to Editors:

Thank you very much for your patience and suggestions. We have revised our manuscript and the point-by-point responses to the comments are listed as follows,

Comment 1: The text overlap is still too high to proceed with. Please pay particular attention to the following sections:

- “study population of cross sectional study” section, lines 109-113 has a high overlap with https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs00296-015-3418-7
- “Assessment of radiographic knee OA” section and lines 149-152, 167-171 has a high overlap with [http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0127666](http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0127666)

- The results section lines 197-203 is overlapping your previously published paper: [https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs00296-016-3491-6](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs00296-016-3491-6), please ensure you acknowledge this and cite the original paper.

As we understand that the overlap may be as a result of your own previously published work of similar nature, whether your own paper or other previously published work, please ensure that you acknowledge this by stating, for example “As previously described” and also citing the original source in your manuscript.

Response: We have revised the manuscript according to your suggestions. However, Lines 149-152 was the text about the NCEP-ATPIII (Asian revised version) criteria to assess metabolic syndrome. It was different from our previous work, and we have cited the original sources in the manuscript. Therefore, we did not added stating and cited our previous work this time. (Study population of cross-sectional study section, line 107, page 4; Assessment of radiographic knee OA section, line 124, page 5; Assessment of other exposures section, line 166, page 6; Results section, line 198, page 7)

Comment 2: We also encourage that you have your manuscript checked by a professional language editing service or a native English speaking colleague when reformulating your text.

Response: We have invited one of our colleagues working in University of Pittsburgh to check our manuscript.

Thank you again for your kindly suggestions.
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