Author’s response to reviews

Title: Effect of duration of diabetes on bone mineral density: A population study on East Asian males

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Author’s response to reviews:

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Neil Gittoes
Editor-in-Chief
BMC Endocrine Disorders

Dear Neil Gittoes

Thank you for your letter and thoughtful comments concerning our manuscript entitled “Effect of duration of diabetes on bone mineral density: A population study on East Asian males”. We have made minor corrections carefully which we hope meet with your approval.
Sincerely yours,

RESPONSES TO Comments:

1) 'Diabetic': although a number of changes have been made, there are still a number of instances where corrections are required.

Response:

Thank you for your fine comment. We have checked throughout whole manuscript and we made the corrections.

2) Abstract: Aim should be changed to Background and the text should start: The aim of the present study is to evaluate...

Response:

We appreciated that your comment. As suggested by the reviewer, we revised that(Abstract section, line 2-3, page 3). ‘Background: The aim of the present study is to evaluate the association between BMD and type 2 DM status in middle-aged and elderly men.’

3) 'Introduction' and 'Materials and Methods' should be changed to 'Background' and 'Methods' respectively.

Response:

We appreciated that your comment. As suggested by the reviewer, we revised that 'Introduction' and 'Materials and Methods' to 'Background' and 'Methods' respectively (line 1, page 4 and line 10, page 5)
Page 6, lines 11: this text has been taken from the paper 'Association Between Insulin Resistance and Bone Mass in Men' (https://academic.oup.com/jcem/article/99/3/988/2537604?) without any attribution. It is essential that correct attribution is made as follows: 'As described previously [ref], the demographic and ...........

Page 7, line 22: this text has been taken from the paper 'Association of bone mineral density and diabetic retinopathy in diabetic subjects: the 2008–2011 Korea National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey' (https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s00198-016-3527-5.pdf?) without any attribution. It is essential that correct attribution is made as follows: 'As described previously [ref], for the lumbar spine...........

Response:

Thank you for your considerate comment. As your comment, I added 'As described previously [ref],’ (Method section line 13, page 6 and line 3 page 8).

6) Author contributions: please use the initials of the authors rather than full names, i.e. MS, HK SL, BO etc

Response:

As suggested by the reviewer, we use the initials of the authors in E-mail section and Authors’ contributions (E-mail section line 17-23, page 1 and Authors’ contributions section line 6-17, page 17)

7) Availability of data and materials:

(i) please also include the sentence on page 5, line 14 (The data from KNHANES is open data for research purposes) in this section.
(ii) page 15, lines 3-5: this sentence should also be moved to this section as it relates to the approval of the KNHANES study and not your specific study. Lines 5-7 should remain in the Ethics approval section (but see below)

Response:

Thank you for your comment. We added the sentences ‘The data from KNHANES is open data for research purposes.’ and ‘KNHANES was conducted after the ethical approval was granted by the Institutional Review Board of the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (approval numbers: 2008-04EXP01-C, 2009-01CON-03-2C, 2010-02CON-21-C, 2011-02CON-06C; http://knhanes.cdc.go.kr/knhanes/).’ in Availability of data and materials section (line 13-18, page 16).

8) Page 5 line 14: please change 'form' to 'from'

Response:

Thank you for the comment. We have corrected the error (line 15, page 5).

9) Ethics approval:

(i) this section should be called Ethics approval and consent to participate.

(ii) a statement regarding consent is required. If consent was not required, please provide details of why this was waived and the institution/committee who approved this.

Response:

Thank you for the comment. Since this data is an anonymous material, it can’t be approved by the individual. Therefore, the consent form was waived. Institutional Review Board of the Seoul Metropolitan Government - Seoul National University Boramae Medical Center approved this.
10) 'Declarations of interest' should be changed to Competing interests - see the Editorial Policies section below for the required wording of the headings in the Declaration.

Response:

Thank you for the comment. We have corrected 'Declarations of interest' to ‘Competing interests’ (line 20, page 16).

11) References are not in journal style.

Response:

Thank you for the comment. We revised reference style throughout the whole manuscript.