Author’s response to reviews

Title: Effect of liraglutide on blood pressure: a meta-analysis of liraglutide randomized controlled trials

Authors:

Xu Zhao (soso11019@126.com)
Kun Huang (khuang@bjmu.edu.cn)
Meijie Zheng (moon850617@163.com)
Junting Duan (duanjunting123@sina.com)

Version: 3 Date: 08 Nov 2018

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear editor and reviewers,

Thank you for your comments concerning our manuscript entitled "Effect of liraglutide on blood pressure: a meta-analysis of liraglutide randomized controlled trials" (BEND-D-18-00260_R1). Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper, and have important guiding significance to our further research. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval. Revised portion are marked in red in the paper. The main corrections in the paper and the response to the reviewer’s comments are as follows.

Editor Comments: The authors do not have assessed the issues raised in the previous round of revisions. Please be accurate in addressing reviewers issues. The exclusion od the LEADER trial in not acceptable.

Response: We are very sorry for our negligence of not assessing the issues raised in the previous round of revisions. We have addressed reviewers issues accurately (Results section, line 13, page 18 and line 2, page 19). And we have included the LEADERS trials in our revised manuscript.

Alon Eisen (Reviewer 2):

1.Comment: The authors have modified their manuscript in order to decrease the heterogeneity between studies. Nevertheless, In its present form, the manuscript does not include the LEADERS trial. Excluding the LEADERS trial, the largest clinical trial with liraglutide, decreases the strength of this meta-analysis and thus in my opinion it should be included.
Response: It is really true as Reviewer suggested that excluding the LEADERS trial decreases the strength of our meta-analysis. Thus we have included the LEADERS trials in our revised manuscript.

2. Comments: I have suggested that the authors perform a stratification by trials follow-up (all trials; > 1year; < 1year). Another option is to report all 19 trials and then in a sub-analysis exclude the LEADERS trial.

Response: Special thanks to you for your good comments. We have performed a stratification by trials follow-up (all trials; > 1year; < 1year) considering the reviewer’s suggestion (Results section, line 13, page 18, line 2, page 19, line 16, page 19, line 18, page 19, line 20, page 19 and Discussion section, line 11, page 20, line 15 page 20).