Author’s response to reviews

Title: Distinction of cardiometabolic profiles among people ≥ 75 years with type 2 diabetes: A latent profile analysis

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Version: 4 Date: 16 Jul 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Brussels, July 15th 2019

Dear Editor,

We thank you for the comments and the time taken to perform this review. Please find enclosed a revised version of our manuscript entitled “Distinction of cardiometabolic profiles among patients ≥ 75 years with type 2 diabetes: A latent profile analysis”, taking into account the editor’s last comments addressed on July 12th 2019.

Besides the revised version of the manuscript, you will find below a detailed point-by-point answer to the editor’s comment.

We hope that these modifications will reach your expectations and thank you in advance for your editorial work.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Antoine CHRISTIAENS
M.D., F.R.S.-FNRS Research Fellow
Answers to editor’s comment, addressed on July 12th 2019.

Editor’s comment: For all research involving human subjects, informed consent to participate in the study should be obtained from participants (or their parent or guardian in the case of children under 16) and a statement to this effect should appear in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section of the Declarations including whether the consent was written. When reporting on such studies, individual patient data should not be made available unless consent for publication has also been obtained. If the need for informed consent has been waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this with details, including the name of the Board or a reference to the relevant legislation in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section of the Declarations.

Authors’ answer: (Declarations section, Ethics approval and consent to participate, page 16, lines 356-362). For this retrospective study, according to national regulations and to the approval of the IRB (00001530 - 00008535), there was no need for informed consent to participate in a retrospective study, as long as the investigators have verified the refusal of use of the retrospective data for scientific research issued by the patients. As you suggested, we modify the “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section with a clear statement with details:

"Ethics approval and consent to participate. This study was approved by the Institutional Review Board (Commission d’Ethique Hospitalo-Facultaire, Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium; IRB 00001530 – IRB 00008535; Approval ref. B 403 / 2017/16NOV/521). According to the national regulations and approval of the Institutional Review Board, there was no need for informed consent to participate in this retrospective study, as long as the investigators have verified the refusal of use of the retrospective data for scientific research issued by the patient."