Author’s response to reviews

Title: Elevated serum levels of aminotransferases in relation to unhealthy foods intake: Tehran Lipid and Glucose Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

1. Abstract Please include the number of men and women in the result section.
   A: Agreed. We would like to thank the reviewer for good points, in the revised manuscript we have included the number of men and women (page 2, line 10).

2. Introduction There is a need in the opening paragraph to expand on the existing literature as it relates to (NAFLD) in the global context. There should be a discussion of the state of the research to this point in time and why this study is warranted. Would the authors also include some context about the obesity rates in Iran?
   A: Agreed and added in the revised manuscript (page 4, lines 7-10).

3. Methods There needs to be a discussion of the psychometric properties of the FFQ and a statement as to why this instrument was used. Are there other tools that could be considered?
   A: Agreed and added in the revised manuscript (page 6, lines 17&18).

4. A rationale for the statement on page 7, line 9-10 is needed with the appropriate citation. How was this cut-off determined?
   A: there were different cut-offs in different populations in previous studies, some used tertiles or quartiles. We decided to use median of liver enzymes as cut-off in our study due to the relatively low sample size and power of the study.

5. Results The methodology employed is appropriate and relevant to the research question. The authors should state the type of logistic regression they have employed in this section (e.g., SPSS uses block enter design, etc).
   A: Agreed and added in the revised manuscript (page 7, line 15).
6. The statistical analysis is well done and comprehensive.

7. The tables are organized and easy to follow.

8. Discussion The results of the paper need to be analyzed within the context of the existing literature. The discussion does not include this type of analysis.  
   A: Agreed and added in the revised manuscript (page 11, lines 9-14).

9. Furthermore, the limitation section should include that the data collected from the FFQ is self-reported.  
   A: Agreed and added in the revised manuscript (page 12, lines 11-13).