Author’s response to reviews

Title: Impact of metabolically healthy obesity on the risk of incident gastric cancer: a populationbased cohort study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Elizabeth Debney
Assistant Editor
BMC Endocrine Disorders

Dear Prof. Zahra Bahadoran

Thank you for your kind letter concerning our manuscript on Dec 2, 2019.

Enclosed please find our revised manuscript newly entitled “Impact of metabolically healthy obesity on the risk of incident gastric cancer: a population-based cohort study”, manuscript ID of which is BEND-D-19-00247R1.

At first, we would like to thank editor for constructive comments on our manuscript.

According to the editor’s comments, we have carefully revised our manuscript.

Responses to editor’s comments are described as below.

All authors have agreed to authorship and order of authorship for this revised manuscript and that all authors have the appropriate permissions and rights to the reported data.

Your kind consideration of this paper would be greatly appreciated.
Yours faithfully,

Masahide Hamaguchi

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Response to Editor

1. Please move the abbreviations list to before the Declarations and after the Conclusions.

Response

We have moved the abbreviations list as you mentioned (Page 10, Line 224-Page 11, Line 239).

2. In the "Ethics approval and consent to participate" section, please clarify if written informed consent was provided by all participants. If not, please clarify if the form of consent was approved by the ethics committee.

Response

Thank you for your comment. In this study, written informed consent was provided by all participants. Thus, we have mentioned this point in the "Ethics approval and consent to participate" section (Page 11, Line 242).

3. All sources of funding for the research reported should be declared in the "Funding" section. If no funding was obtained for your study we still require this section to be included with the statement “No funding was obtained for this study”.

In the “Funding” section of your declarations, please clarify the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Response

Thank you for your comment. No funding was obtained for this study; thus, we have described as “No funding was obtained for this study” in the "Funding" section (Page 12, Line 267).
4. Please remove the duplicate "Competing interests" section, which is located at the beginning of the manuscript.

Response

We have removed it.

5. We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:

Lines 144-154:


While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. If there is overlap in the Methods section, please ensure to summarize the methods and cite the source. Please re-phrase these sections to minimise overlap.

Response

Thank you for your comment. According to your comment, we have revised the Methods section (Page 5, Line 108-112) described as below.

“The methods for detecting and diagnosing gastrointestinal cancers were described previously [24]. Because the first standardized questionnaires for gastrointestinal cancers were sent on Jan 1st 2003, we set the study period as Jan 1st 2003 to Dec 31st 2016. The primary endpoint of this study was hazard risk (HR) of MHO for gastric cancer.”

6. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Response

We upload clean version.

Thank you very much for your comments.