Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association between renal function and bone mineral density in healthy postmenopausal Chinese women

Authors:
Shuang Li (ls330013@csu.edu.cn)
Junkun Zhan (zhanjunkun@csu.edu.cn)
Yanjiao Wang (917637923@qq.com)
Yi Wang (13874857512@139.com)
Jieyu He (9953726@qq.com)
Wu Huang (huangwu_2008@yeah.net)
Zhifeng Sheng (ls330013@163.com)
Youshuo Liu (liuyoushuo@csu.edu.cn)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Nagai,
RE: BEND-D-19-00337R2

Thank you very much for your letter and advice. Following the suggestions of the reviewers, we have added the comments raised by the reviewers. The responses to the reviewers’ comments are listed below this letter. We herewith submit the revised paper for re-examination.

We hope that the revised version of the manuscript is now acceptable for publication in your journal.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.
With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
Dr Liu

Dear Sir or Madam:
RE: BEND-D-19-00337R2

Thank you for your valuable comments on our paper. We have revised the manuscript, and would like to re-submit it for your consideration.
Points for improvement:
Reviewer 1
1. Thank you for this valuable suggestion. We are sorry that we didn't make it clear enough. eGFR declines with age. Impaired renal function is defined as eGFR < 60 ml/min/1.73m² according to the previous study [3]. Some modifications were made in Methods (page 4, line 91, 94, 95-96) and Discussion (page 8, line 213; page 9, line 259-260). This insufficiency should be listed as a limitation.
RESPONSE: Thank you for your valuable suggestions. We have added this limitation in Discussion (page 9, line 247-251, 257).

2. If in subgroup analysis reduced renal function will have a correlation to low BMD, the contribution of CKD-MBD should be debated. Maybe, the authors did not understand my suggestion. The sub group analysis after stratification by age and postmenopausal did not show the significant association between renal function and BMD, therefore, the association (reduced GFR and low BMD) in this study is not likely to be caused by CKD-MBD, presumably just age. Therefore, the discussion part that reduced BMD might be influenced by CKD-MBD should be changed to the corresponding story.
RESPONSE: Thank you for the comment. We are sorry that we didn't understand your suggestion. The association between reduced eGFR and low BMD disappeared after adjustment for age. Therefore, the association of reduced eGFR and low BMD was due in large part to age. We have added this in Discussion (page 8, line 227-231).

Still, there are some modifications in Discussion (page 9, line 252-253) and References (page 15-16, ref 40-41).