Author’s response to reviews

Title: Normal/high-fat milk consumption is associated with higher lean body and muscle mass in Japanese women aged between 40 and 60 years: a cross-sectional study

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Response to the Editor and the Reviewers

We truly appreciate valuable suggestions and comments made by the editor and the reviewers. Below are our point by point responses.

Editor Comments:

>Thank you for the time and effort you have put into revising the manuscript; there is a considerable improvement. However, there are still a number of issues which require clarification and/or further work before being appropriate for publication.

Abstract and Results: the numbers of 27, 18 and 29 women do not add up to 85 women who completed the BDHQ. Please explain why data for 11 women were missing or why they were excluded.

According to the editor’s suggestion, the sentence below was added to the Abstract and the Results section.

“11 women who consumed both low-fat and normal/high-fat milk were excluded from the analysis.”
Discussion: the author did not address the reviewer’s comment regarding the discussion section. Most part of the discussion on page 13 and 14 are not relevant to the current study. Overall discussion need rewriting; it should be discussion of the study findings, with relevant linkages to current literature.

The discussion section was rewritten. The reference list was reorganized accordingly.

> Please follow Bio Med Central referenced style; please remove dots after journal abbreviations.

> Please add the ‘year’ to the reference 20.

The reference list was revised.