Author's response to reviews

Title: Age-related frailty and its association with biological markers of ageing

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Dr Barnard,

We have discussed your email and the reviewer comments. To be honest, we find it rather extraordinary that the reviewer should be seeking to micro-edit our manuscript in this way.

The main thrust of the work concerns the work on biological markers, which was recognised from the outset by the other reviewers. It seems to us quite unnecessary and indeed inappropriate to request that we adjust details of presentation of material that is factually correct and reported in an open and neutral manner.

Nevertheless, in order to allay the anxieties of the reviewer, we have removed mention of the Fried phenotype from the Results section of the Abstract. We respectfully decline to alter the text of the Results because we can see absolutely nothing that is wrong, inappropriate or incomplete in the current version. The reader who is interested in further details can very easily refer to the supplemental information, as is clearly indicated in the text.

We trust that the version now submitted can be accepted without further delay.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Kirkwood