Author’s response to reviews

Title: Peripheral blood gene expression signatures which reflect smoking and aspirin exposure are associated with cardiovascular events

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear BMC Medical Genomics Editorial Staff,

Thank you for the chance to update our manuscript.

Regarding the request to complete and submit the TREND checklist: In reviewing this, it appears that the checklist is designed to address non-randomized interventional studies; the PREDICT study utilized in the manuscript was a prospective observational study that has previously been published numerous times, and the current manuscript describes a post-hoc analysis utilizing this data. If you would still like us to complete this checklist we will, however we do not feel it is pertinent to the current study.

The remaining requests have been addressed, however we have added the requested information regarding the PREDICT trial to the methods section rather than the abstract. In addition we have added wording to further emphasize the observational nature of the PREDICT trial and the post-hoc nature of the current analysis.

Please let us know if any further modifications need to made.

Best Regards,

Jim Wingrove