Author’s response to reviews

Title: Associations between fruit and vegetable, and antioxidant nutrient intake and age-related macular degeneration by smoking status in elderly Korean men

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Response to the Reviewer

Thank you for your very valuable comments and helpful suggestions. Please see our detailed responses below.

Reviewer #3: The authors have adequately addressed the suggested changes, but there are a couple of minor changes required. Revisions are outlined below:

Introduction

Page 4, line 47: the smoking prevalence data is almost 20 years old and can be removed. I think the most important point is that Korea has the third largest concentration of smokers in the OECD.

Following your suggestion, we have revised as follow. “According to the Korea National Health Examination Survey (KNHANES) report, the smoking prevalence among Korean men was 39.3% in 2015. In addition, Korea has the third highest concentration of smokers among the organization for economic cooperation and development (OECD) countries.” (Page 4, lines 45-48)
Results

Page 9, line 159: add results for fruit and vegetables i.e., "For non-smokers and former smokers, however, there was no association between antioxidant nutrient intake or fruit and vegetable intake and AMD"

Following your suggestion, we have revised as follow. “For nonsmokers and former smokers, however, there was no association between intake of fruits and vegetables and antioxidant nutrients and AMD.” (Page 9, lines 157-159)

Discussion

Page 10, line 187: change 'has' to 'had'

We have revised. (Page 10, lines 186)

Page 10, line 191-193: More information is required to support this statement. i.e, is the prevalence of other risk factors such as family history, diabetes mellitus and alcohol consumption higher in this population compared to other studies?

Following your suggestion, we have revised as follow. “Furthermore, the prevalence of hypertension (52.4%), one of the risk factors for AMD, were higher in our study population compared to other study (35.6%).” (Page 10, lines 190-192)

Page 11, line 195: It would be informative to give examples of high alpha-carotene and beta carotene foods so readers are aware which specific foods may help in reducing risk of AMD.

We have added dietary sources of beta carotene. (Page 11, lines 196-198)

Page 11, line 208: please add the proportion of increase in fruit and vegetables that the study reported?

We have added the proportion of increase in fruit and vegetables. (Page 11, lines 208-211)