Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus among Hepatitis C Virus-Infected Patients: Protocol of a Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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Response to Editor/reviewers

Dear Editor /Reviewer,

We thank you very much for your constructive comments and suggestions for the improvement of this manuscript. We have corrected and amended the manuscript based on your comments and suggestions. To visualize the changes made in the manuscript, we enabled the track change feature in Microsoft word.

Your manuscript "Prevalence of Type Two Diabetes Mellitus among Hepatitis C Virus-Infected Patients: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocol" (SYSR-D-18-00107R1) has been assessed by our reviewers. Based on these reports, and my own assessment as Editor, I am pleased to inform you that it is potentially acceptable for publication in Systematic Reviews, once you have carried out some essential revisions suggested by our reviewers.

The main issue left is one of language. Here are issues that need fixing, and this was just in the Abstract:

"This systematic review and meta-analysis will include original articles of cohort and cross-sectional studies, published in English language" This should say "published in the English language" or "published in English". Either is acceptable.

Reply: thank you, it has been corrected as suggested
"A fixed/random effects meta-analysis model..." This makes it sound as if there is one model that is both fixed and random effect. This is not the case. Your Methods section under Data Analysis only mentions the random effects model.

Reply: thanks it has been corrected as suggested

"Funnel plots and the Egger/Begger's statistical test will be used to see publication bias". There is no "Begger's statistical test", I think you mean Begg's statistical test. And it is a different test than Egger's test, so should not be listed with the / between them, rather it should say "Funnel plots and Egger's test and Begg's test will be used..." And then it is not "to see publication bias" but rather "to assess for publication bias".

Reply: thanks it has been corrected as suggested

So this is just the abstract. The whole manuscript needs to be carefully gone through by someone expert in scientific writing, to correct these errors.

Reply: Thank you, we have improved the quality of written language in collaboration with colleagues and linguistic professionals throughout the document.