Author’s response to reviews

Title: Physical Activity and Central Adiposity in a Cohort of African-American Adults

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Tiago Barreira
Editorial Office
BMC Obesity
RE: Resubmission of OBSY-D-17-00050

Dear Mr. Barreira,

It is with pleasure that I offer this revision of the attached manuscript, “Physical Activity and Central Adiposity in a Cohort of African-American Adults.”

My co-authors and I have responded to all of the reviewers’ comments with a significantly modified manuscript. We appreciate the comments and believe the edits made in response have greatly enhanced the manuscript.
We have replied to each of the comments in the attached document. We look forward to the Editorial Office’s response and decision.

Warm regards,

Amy Luke, PhD

OBSY-D-17-00050

Response to Reviewers’ Comments

The co-authors of this manuscript appreciate the reviewers’ comments and have made substantial edits to the manuscript to reflect these comments.

Reviewer 1.

1. We re-did the analyses including the potential confounding factors alcohol intake and employment status. Neither of these factors was significantly, or meaningfully, associated with any measure of central adiposity and thus were not included in the final multivariate models. Data regarding these factors were included, however, in Table 2 – which is the table describing the participant characteristics during the third follow-up examination.

We have added the results of sex-stratified multivariate regression analyses to Table 4.

2. The first paragraph of the results section is focused on the comparison of participant characteristics from the baseline examination between those who completed the third follow-up examination and those who were lost to follow-up. This is what ‘baseline’ refers to in this paragraph.

All data used in the current analyses were collected during the third follow-up examination.

We chose not to do a longitudinal analysis with this research question because we do not have measures of central adiposity from baseline, although we do have physical activity measures. It was determined that data collected on central adiposity and physical activity at the same timepoint, eg, third follow-up examination, would be the best analysis at this point in the study.
We have included a table (Table 1) describing characteristics of those participants lost to follow-up and completers of the third follow-up examination.

3. We have removed the terms, ‘significant’ and ‘largescale’, from this concluding paragraph.

Other comments.

1. Changed all references to ‘multivariable’ to ‘multivariate’.

2. Deleted ‘significantly’.

3. Included smoking status, alcohol intake and employment status to Table 2 (formerly, Table 1).

Reviewer 2.

We have removed the reference to the association between vigorous physical activity and VAT from the abstract.