Author’s response to reviews

Title: Nutrition assessment of Vitamin A and Vitamin D in northeast Chinese population based on SPE/UPLC/PDA

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Re: Manuscript Number BMC Nutrition - NUTN-D-17-00210

“Nutrition assessment of Vitamin A and Vitamin D in northeast Chinese population based-on SPE/UPLC/PDA ”

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for the review of our manuscript (Manuscript Number BMC Nutrition - NUTN-D-17-00210 “Nutrition assessment of Vitamin A and Vitamin D in northeast Chinese population based-on SPE/UPLC/PDA”). We have read the comments of the editor and three reviewers carefully. It is undisputable that all these comments are very valuable and precise for us to revise our manuscript.

We have revised this manuscript point-to-point as detailed below:
Yuan Lin, M.D., Ph.D. (Reviewer 1): The authors have addressed most of my questions. I have a few minor suggestions.

1. In the abstract, it is not appropriate to say "25OHD3 (VD) and retinol (VA)", should just use "25OHD3 and retinol". And also try to avoid switching from '25OHD3 and retinol' to 'VD and VA', not exactly the same.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. “25OHD3 and retinol “were used and “25OHD3 (VD) and retinol (VA)” was removed in our manuscript.

2. Since there are some studies using combined HPLC/PDA and SPE/HPLC/MS method to test retinol and 25OHD3, I think the first aim of this study should be tone down. And the first study using this method should be mentioned in the background. This study is sort of validating and applying this method in a large population.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. The first aim of this study was assess the nutritional status of 25OHD3 and retinol in a northern Chinese population using our established reliable method for the simultaneous determination of serum 25OHD3 and retinol. The reference was added in our manuscript.

Editorial Comments:

1. Please copy the information on Ethical Approval (approval from the Human Research and Ethics Committee of Harbin Medical University) from your Methods to ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section within your Manuscript.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We did it.

2. Please copy the information on consent (mainly that you obtained written consent) from your Methods to ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section within your Manuscript.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We did it.
3. As some of your participants were less than 16 years old, please clarify whether you obtained consent to participate from their parents or legal guardians. Please add this information to ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We have clarified it in ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section.

4. In the section 'Funding', please also describe the role of the funding bodies in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We have described the role of the funding bodies in our revised manuscript.

5. Please note that the Availability of data and materials section refers to the raw data used in your study and presenting tables and figures is not sufficient to state that all data is contained within the manuscript and additional files. Please only use this statement if you have indeed provided all raw data on which your study is based. We strongly encourage all authors to share their raw data, either by providing it in a supplementary file or depositing it in a public repository and providing the details on how to access it in this section. We understand, however, that since your data consists of interview transcripts and is therefore likely to contain identifying participant information which requires written consent to be published, it may be best if your data is not made publically available to protect participant anonymity. In this case, please simply alter your Availability statement to state that the data will not be shared in order to preserve participant anonymity. See below other statements that you can use:

- The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK TO DATASETS]

- The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.
• The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

• Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

• The data that support the findings of this study are available from [third party name] but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and so are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of [third party name].

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

6. We noticed that the initials of Author Hongyu Chen mention in the ‘Authors’ contributions’ section do not exactly fit the way his name is presented (CHY). Please correct so they match.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We have corrected it.

7. Please remove the Figure tiles and legends from the actual Figure Files. These files should contain the image graphic (and any associated keys) only.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We have removed it.

8. Please add a “Supplementary files” section (after the References) where you list the following information about your supplementary material:
Please ensure also that all additional files have been cited in the main manuscript.

Thank you very much for your valuable suggestion. We listed the information about our supplementary material in “Supplementary files” section (after the References).

9. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethrough or text in different colours. All relevant tables and figures should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

We did it.

If it still needs to be revised, please don’t hesitate to tell us. We will be very grateful and appreciate to revise it until it is qualified for publication on your journal.

I’m looking forward to hearing from your good news.

Sincerely yours,

Wang Maoqing