

**Name of Journal: World Journal of Diabetes**

**ESPS Manuscript NO: 13114**

**Columns: ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

***Prospective Study***

**Biostatistics:** A biomedical statistician was not employed for this study. The first author has attended several statistics classes and our lab has been performing and publishing analyses utilizing statistical methods such as multiple regression for more than 30 years without the use of statistical assistance.

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