

Answers to reviewers:

Reviewer 1: Dear authors, I read with interest your study that is clear and well conducted. Conclusions are supported by previous discussion and I agree with you that too simplistic conclusions must be avoided. I hope it will be a nice lecture for the readers of WJG.

Authors' answer: Thank you very much for your comments!

Reviewer 2: This is a good review. However, few minor modifications are required:

Thank you very much for your comments!

Cerebrovascular disease can be included as a component of cardiovascular event in the primary outcome as mentioned in abstract section. **We included study on cerebrovascular disease in the discussion. There was only one study on this topic and we decided to comment it but not include it in the primary screening because it can correlate with the title and primary end point (cardiovascular diseases).**

Whether this systematic review has been registered anywhere?

Authors' answer: No, it has not been registered.

Correct the reference no 16.

Authors' answer: we corrected the reference.

Thank you very much for your comments!

With kind regards!

Miroslav Vujasinovic