

**In response to comments from reviewer ID 02623966:**

Thank you very much for taking the time to read our systematic review and providing comments. We have made no alterations in response to your comments.

Kind regards,

**In response to comments from reviewer ID 00646357:**

Thank you for providing us with comments. However, it appears that these comments were intended for a different manuscript as our systematic review sought to answer the questions: why has there been such a dramatic increase in both breast cancer and obesity in the gulf region? Is this increase correlation with an increase in obesity and lack of exercise?

Our review did not research the role of advanced imaging techniques in breast cancer. Please could you confirm whether these comments were intended for this manuscript?

Kind regards,

**In response to comments from reviewer ID 00784262:**

Thank you very much for taking the time to review our systematic review and for providing us with interesting points and comments. We have addressed some of the areas you highlighted which we have referenced in the table below and highlighted in the manuscript. The initial comment mentioned that our review sought to answer: *“why are women in the region being diagnosed with breast cancer younger than in Britain”*. Although this is a very interesting topic and was discussed within the review, our three main aims were:

- a) Establish an increase in BC incidence over the past two decades
- b) Determine whether there has been a rise in obesity and physical inactivity
- c) Detect an association between obesity and physical inactivity individually as risk factors for BC in the GCCCs”

Understanding why women in the GCCCs are being diagnosed younger than women in Britain is very important but was beyond the scope of this review. However, it is a very interesting topic and is definitely an area for future research.

Reviewers comments	In response to comments
The Core tip should not use any acronyms	See page 2
Does the gene pool in the Gulf favour one type of cancer	See page 4
Has the introduction of screening programmes influenced the breast cancer incidence	See page 16 and 17
The difference between earlier obesity and later obesity and its effect on BC in the GCCCs	See page 18 and 19
Is Parity a protective factor for BC in the GCCCs	See page 19

Kind regards,

To whom it may concern,

In response to the 'revisions back to the author' the article highlights have been added and are highlighted in yellow in the attached revised manuscript.

In response to the comment about the referencing, the references have been altered to include the PMID number and the DOI number where they were available. It was unclear exactly what the changes were that were requested in the 'response to author'. We hope that the edits made meet your criteria.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact if any further information or edits are required.

Kind regards,

Lara Tanner and Kwok-Leung Cheung