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Response to Reviewers

Dear Editors-in-chief,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to submit a revised draft of the manuscript "Characterization and Risk Factors for Unexplained Female Infertility in Sudan: A Case-Control Study" for publication in the World Journal of Methodology. We appreciate the time and effort that you and the reviewers dedicated to providing feedback on our manuscript and are grateful for the insightful comments on and valuable improvements to our paper.

We have incorporated most of the suggestions made by the reviewers. Those changes are highlighted within the manuscript. Please see below, for a point-by-point response to the reviewers' comments and concerns.

Here is a point-by-point response to the reviewers' comments and concerns.

Reviewer #1:

Comment: Kindly see my comments in the review pane of the manuscript.

Response: Thank you for your comments. Hence, we have made all corrections in the original document.

Reviewer #2:

Comment: The authors conducted a matched case-control study of unexplained female infertility in the Sudan setting and obtained reasonable results with the control of confounding factors. The study is of high guidance for the local females. The manuscript is somewhat lacking in innovation, however, it is generally well-written, with the tables and figures clear and reliable.

Response: Thank you very much for your comments.

Science editor:

Comment: The manuscript has been peer-reviewed, and it is ready for the first decision.

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Response: Thank you!

Company editor-in-chief:

Comment: I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Methodology, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Before final acceptance, uniform presentation should be used for figures showing the same or similar contents; for example, "Figure 1 Pathological changes of atrophic gastritis after treatment. A: ...; B: ...; C: ...; D: ...; E: ...; F: ...; G: ...". Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor. In order to respect and protect the author's intellectual property rights and prevent others from misappropriating figures without the author's authorization or abusing figures without indicating the source, we will indicate the author's copyright for figures originally generated by the author, and if the author has used a figure published elsewhere or that is copyrighted, the author needs to be authorized by the previous publisher or the copyright holder and/or indicate the reference source and copyrights. Please check and confirm whether the figures are original (i.e. generated de novo by the author(s) for this paper). If the picture is 'original', the author needs to add the following copyright information to the bottom right-hand side of the picture in PowerPoint (PPT): Copyright ©The Author(s) 2023. Authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content. Before final acceptance, when revising the manuscript, the author must supplement and improve the highlights of the latest cutting-edge research results, thereby further improving the content of the manuscript. To this end, authors are advised to apply a new tool, the RCA. RCA is an artificial intelligence technology-based open multidisciplinary citation analysis database. In it, upon obtaining search results from the keywords entered by the author, "Impact Index Per Article" under "Ranked by" should be selected to find the latest highlight articles, which can then be used to further improve an article under preparation/peer-review/revision. Please visit our RCA database for more information at: https://www.referencecitationanalysis.com/.

Response: Thank you for the suggestions. We have made the proposed changes in the manuscript.

Additional clarifications

In addition to the above comments, all spelling and grammatical errors pointed out by the reviewers have been corrected. We look forward to hearing from you in due time regarding our submission and to responding to any further questions and comments you may have.

Sincerely, Correspondent author 08/02/2023

1 HOW DO AUTHORS CORRECTLY DEAL WITH THEIR PEER-REVIEW REPORT AND COMMENTS RAISED BY THE SCIENCE EDITOR? YES or NO
1.1 Authors should reconsider the strengths and weaknesses of their manuscript. [YES]
1.2 Authors should carefully read the peer-review report. [YES]
1.3 Authors should carefully answer reviewers. [YES]
1.4 Authors should carefully format their manuscript. [YES]
1.5 Authors should carefully polish the language of their manuscript. [YES]
2 FIRST SECTION OF WRITING REQUIREMENTS YES or NO
2.1 Title [Characterization and Risk Factors for Unexplained Female Infertility in Sudan: A Case-Control Study]

2.2 Running title [Unexplained Female Infertility in Sudan]
2.3 Authorship [Abdullah Abdulslam Abdullah, Musa Ahmed, Adesina Oladokun]

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2.6 Author contributions [AAA, MA, and AO analyzed and interpreted the data, and drafted the manuscript. AAA and AO designed the study and directed implementation and data collection. AAA, MA, and AO edited the manuscript for intellectual content and provided critical comments on the manuscript. All authors gave final approval of the version to be published; have agreed on the journal to which the article has been submitted; and agreed to be accountable   for   all   aspects   of   the   work.]

2.7   Supportive   foundations   [No]

2.8 Conflict-of-interest [The authors declared no potential competing of interest concerning the research,   authorship,   and/or   publication   of   this   article]

2.9   STROBE   checklist   case   control   [YES]

2.10   Open-Access   [Yes]

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2.12   Abstract   [YES]

2.13 Key words [Unexplained infertility; Sudanese women; risk factors; dietary diversity; physical   activity   level]

2.14   Copyright   [YES]

2.15   Core   tip   [YES]

2.16   Audio   core   tip   [YES]

3   SECOND   SECTION   OF   WRITING   REQUIREMENTS   YES   or   NO

3.1   Main   text   [YES]

3.2   Biostatistics   [YES]

3.3   Units   [YES]

3.4   Illustrations   [YES]

3.5   Tables   [YES]

3.6   Notes   in   illustrations   and   tables   [YES]

3.7   Abbreviations   [YES]

3.8   Italics   []

3.9 Article highlights [YES]