

To whom it may concern:

We would like to show our appreciation for considering to publish our manuscript in your decent journal. We have addressed the questions (review report) raised by the reviewer in our responses and hope to have satisfactorily addressed their concerns. We also appreciate the valuable feedback provided, which contributes to enhancing the quality and completeness of our manuscript.

Yours Sincerely

Ta-Wei Chu M.D.

Q1: First, I did not find too much change on the results section and discussion section. Still, results are described in an over simple way, and the descriptions of the discussion are over lengthy. Such section structure is in fact an indicator indicating that the work of this results is mediocre and with less innovation.

A1:

The main value of the present study is that we used three models to evaluate how these risk factors impacting the eGFR. As mentioned in the method section, the first model was constructed by demographic and biochemistry. Model 2 added life style (exercise, sleeping hours, and drinking status) onto Model 1. Finally, the Model 3 included inflammatory markers such as WBC, Hb, and γ -GT, et al. Even though these risk factors had been studied extensively in the other articles, however, separately. In other words, to our knowledge, the present study is the first one to include all the aforementioned factors in a single cohort and all these risk factors were analyzed by using machine learning methods in one study. We hope that the reviewer could agree with us that this is the novelty of the present study.

As for the result section, we have added more context into the previous version. It is about 2 times more details for describing our study findings.

We completely agree with the reviewer's suggestion and shortened the discussion. Thus, the readers could capture the essence of our study.

Q2: Second, it is really funny that authors uploaded an EMPTY form of 'inform consent' of a clinic. If authors have read clinical research guidelines and journal submission requirements, I believe authors should know that reviewers and editors are requesting for "SIGNED" inform consent documents. So, here comes the questions, did authors read aforementioned guidelines and didn't authors understand the meaning of the English word "signed"?

A2:

~~此研究是次級資料庫分析，並不涉及樣本收案，所以沒有此研究計畫的同意書；而研究所使用的資料庫是來自財團法人演譯基金會，資料收集的程序請參考技術報告(<http://www.mjhrf.org/file/file/report/MJHRF-TR-01%20MJ%20Health%20Database.pdf>)。~~

Regarding the issue you mentioned concerning the "informed consent form," we deeply apologize for not being able to provide a signed document. This research is a secondary database analysis and does not involve sample collection, so there is no consent form for this research project. The database used in the research is from the Interpretation Foundation. For the data collection procedures, please refer to the technical report. (<http://www.mjhrf.org/file/file/report/MJHRF-TR-01%20MJ%20Health%20Database.pdf>).~~Due to the involvement of personal privacy data, we have provided a blank form to ensure the privacy rights of the participants. We understand that this might raise concerns, but we assure you that research follows the relevant laws and regulations and ensures participants' informed consent.~~

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Q3: Third, besides that funny empty form, I find the affiliation of that empty form is not the same with that of any author's. And that funny form is in fact not an informed consent for the research project of the manuscript, it is a general privacy data handling form for people who want to have general physical examination at that unknown clinic.

A3:

~~承上題的回覆，此研究資料來源是美兆診所健檢客戶的健檢數據，透過美兆診所同意書，將資料授權給財團法人演譯基金會管理與釋出，所以同意書屬於美兆診所擁有，因涉及隱私資料，我們並無權提供已簽署的同意書，故提供空白同意書供參考。~~
Continuing from the answer to the previous question, the source of the data for this research is the health examination data of MJ Clinic's customers. Through MJ Health Screening Center's consent letter, the data is authorized to be managed and released by the Foundation, a legal person of the MJ Health Research Foundation, so the consent form belongs to owned by MJ Health Screening Center, we do not have the right to provide a signed consent form due to privacy information involved, so a blank consent form is provided for reference.

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Regarding the issue you raised about the affiliation of the "blank form," we would like to provide further clarification. The blank form's affiliation does not match any of the authors' affiliations because it was obtained from the MJ Health Research Foundation, from which the authors purchased a health database for research analysis. As a result, the affiliation on the form is different due to the nature of data acquisition from a separate source.

We want to assure you that despite the discrepancy in affiliation, our research maintains strict adherence to ethical guidelines and regulations. The acquisition of the health data database has been conducted with the necessary permissions and legal considerations.

We understand the importance of transparency and compliance in research practices, and we apologize for any confusion that this may have caused. If you require any further documentation or information regarding the data acquisition process, please do not hesitate to let us know.