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April 16, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in word format (file name: 15837-review.doc).

**Title: Evidence Based Review of Type 2 Diabetes Prevention and Management in Low and Middle Income Countries**

**Author:** Aimee Afable and Nidhi Shree Karingula

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 15837

Please find our response to reviewer comments below.

**Reviewer 1:** This review manuscript presents the newest approaches to diabetes prevention and control in the developing countries. Authors have initially gathered 4506 studies from 97 developing countries. However, using several pre-determined exclusion criteria, only 66 studies from 20 countries were finally included in this review. It is a manuscript of potential interest; however I have to mention the following comments. Firstly, as mentioned above, the vast majority of the initially gathered studies (4440 out of 4506) have been excluded from the review analysis. It is questionable whether the 66 studies of 20 countries that were included, comprise a representative sample of the whole developing world! Moreover, authors should explain why they have searched the literature only for a two-month time interval (August 2014 and September 2014) and not for a longer period to gather and include more suitable studies in the review manuscript. Secondly, authors have included only studies of Type-2 Diabetes. Why have they not included also studies with Type-1 Diabetes, as lifestyle interventions are considered of crucial significance for the therapeutic management of Type-1 diabetic patients? Otherwise, authors should modify the title of the paper, to indicate the inclusion only of studies with Type-2 diabetics. Minor comment: I have not seen an abstract of the review manuscript (or at least it was not included in the pdf file that could be downloaded).

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**Response to Reviewer 1:** We have included a discussion of limitations stating that the studies gathered may not be representative of all studies in the developing world (underlined in the revised manuscript). Also to clarify, our search strategy used very broad search terms. For this reason our initial searches produced a large number and range of studies. We revised the time period we conducted our search (underlined in revised manuscript). Two search phases: September 2013 to December 2013 and an updated search during August 2014 to September 2014. We revised the title to state Type 2 Diabetes. We now include an abstract.

**Reviewer 2:** In the text, 30,18,8 and 10 studies are mentioned in the result section, "Diabetes management. DPP adaptations" should include 30 studies in Table 1. However there are only 29 studies presented in Table 1. Table 2 includes 18 studies as described in the text. The first sentence of the section, "Diabetes management: Technology assisted interventions" states "we identified 8 interventions". However, 9 studies are included in Table 3. "Diabetes prevention" should include 7 studies of DPP-like interventions in Table 4. and 3 studies of diabetes prevention that integrate diet and exercise in Table 5. However, Table 5 is not mentioned in the main text. "hba1c", "Hba1c" should be replaced with "HbA1c". Almost all the studies selected achieved favorable outcomes in the management or prevention of diabetes. However, negative results are usually not published. Therefore the bias by publishing should be considered in the discussion.

**Response to Reviewer 2:** All consistencies between the text and tables have been addressed (underlined in revised manuscript). Publication and other biases are discussed in the limitations section (underlined in revised manuscript).

Thank you again for consideration of our manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Diabetes*.

Sincerely yours,

Aimee Afable-Munsuz