

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Cardiology

Manuscript NO: 71148

Title: Joint Effect of Vitamin D Deficiency and Metabolic Syndrome on Risk of Cardiovascular Disease and All-cause Mortality among U.S. Adults: A Longitudinal Study and Machine Learning Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed Peer-review model: Single blind **Reviewer's code:** 05301537 **Position:** Peer Reviewer Academic degree: MSc Professional title: Assistant Professor Reviewer's Country/Territory: Ethiopia Author's Country/Territory: United States Manuscript submission date: 2021-08-30 Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique Reviewer accepted review: 2022-03-04 07:26 Reviewer performed review: 2022-03-10 23:40 Review time: 6 Days and 16 Hours

Scientific quality	[] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [] Grade C: Good [] Grade D: Fair [] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	 [] Grade A: Priority publishing [Y] Grade B: Minor language polishing [] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	 [] Accept (High priority) [] Accept (General priority) [Y] Minor revision [] Major revision [] Rejection



Re-review	[Y]Yes []No
Peer-reviewer	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [] Onymous
statements	Conflicts-of-Interest: [] Yes [Y] No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

N/A



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this paper the Authors performed an original analysis of the association between vitamin D deficiency and MetSyn and increased risk of CVD and all-cause mortality. A significant joint effect of vitamin D deficiency and MetSyn on risk of mortality was highlighted by using Cox regression model and CART for machine learning. This article expanded our knowledge on the impact of vitamin D deficiency and MetSyn on risk of CVD and all-cause mortality. My only existing question about the methodological approach concerns the basis for classification of race/ethnicity (non-Hispanic white [NHW], non-Hispanic black [NHB], and the others), that requires a more specific or detailed elucidation.