

June 11th, 2018
Athens, Greece

To the Editorial Board of the “World Journal of Cardiology”

We are submitting for consideration our revised manuscript (#39791) entitled: “**Preventing Pediatric Cardiothoracic Trauma: The Role of Policy and Legislation**”. We would like to thank the reviewers and the Editor of the Journal for taking the time and effort to assess our initial manuscript so meticulously. Our research group took into account all of your recommendations and we modified our manuscript accordingly. All within-manuscript edits have been highlighted with yellow. Detailed replies to the reviewers’ comments and the editorial remarks are provided below:

Reviewer 1:

Comment 1.1: *“The paper presents an overview/viewpoint with some suggestions of epidemiology and issue associated with cardiothoracic trauma in paediatric population. The viewpoint is succinct, clear and in general well written. I don't have major criticism excepted a minor language editing.”*

Authors’ reply: Thank you for taking the time to review our paper and offer constructive feedback. Please note that the revised manuscript has been proofed for grammar and syntax.

Reviewer 2:

Comment 2.1: *“The authors present a brief review of the literature behind causes and policy interventions for pediatric cardiothoracic trauma. The work is well-written, to the point, and sufficiently succinct. The need for public advocacy of the proposals embodied by the reviewed literature is well-stated. A brief introductory paragraph to describe the purpose of the paper may be helpful to readers.”*

Authors’ reply: Thank you for appreciating our work and for suggesting ways to further improve it. The following sentence has been added in our introductory paragraph (page 3, paragraph 1): “In this editorial, we explore various policy interventions directed at reducing the incidence as well as the morbidity and mortality of cardiothoracic trauma in children.”

Reviewer 3:

Comment 3.1: *“This editorial manuscript deals with a medically important issue, namely that of designing, implementing and supporting policy directed at reduction of morbidity and mortality from cardiothoracic trauma in the pediatric age group. The medical issue is real, important, and complex, especially because no single cause or setting underlies the large number of cases reported and/or treated. Dealing with the problem is not related to insufficient medical knowledge, but it is clearly related to eliminating or reducing the odds of a child or teenager suffering cardiothoracic trauma. Motor car accidents in various forms as well as gun-related violence in multiple settings account for most of the risk of cardiothoracic trauma in this age range which can be modified by policy changes. Common-sense recommendations are made in the editorial, in a clear and articulated manner. Therefore, the manuscript*

is useful because it provides a sober, articulated, easily assimilated perspectives on practical measures of prevention. I think the reader will be enlightened by the reading of this paper, and policy-makers may be made aware of the relevant choices by reading it."

Authors' reply: Thank you for appreciating our work.

Editorial remarks:

Comment 1.1: *"The similarity of this article is so high. Please revise the text, refer to the CrossCheck report (I have uploaded it to the system). If the revised manuscript can't pass the crossCheck, it won't be accepted."*

Authors' reply: Thank you for kind recommendation. Several parts of our manuscript have been reworded and highlighted with yellow. That said, please note that multiple sections of the paper cannot be changed as these constitute: 1) *common abbreviations*: e.g. motor vehicle crash (MVC), graduated driver licensing (GDL), off-road vehicle (ORV); 2) *names of databases*: e.g. Fatality Analysis Reporting System, National Automotive Sampling System General Estimates System, Census Bureau, and National Household Travel Surveys; 3) *names of professional societies*: e.g. American Academy of Pediatrics, American Pediatric Surgical Association; 4) *names of laws*: e.g. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90b (Sections 21-35).

In conclusion, we hope that with these revisions, our work is felt appropriate to publish in the *World Journal of Cardiology* and educational to its readership. We look forward to hearing from you and we would be pleased to answer any further questions and/or comments you may have

Sincerely yours,

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