

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



May 8, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 1041-review.doc).

Title: METABOLIC SYNDROME IN HYPERTENSIVE PATIENTS: AN UNHOLY ALLIANCE

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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Cardiology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 1041

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewers

Reviewer 02456031

Thank you for your suggestions.

- A separate section regarding the various definitions of the metabolic syndrome was introduced in the revised version of the paper.
- The subsection "Prevalence of metabolic syndrome in Asia", including the associated figure 1, was deleted. The differences between ethnic groups were not discussed because more space was devoted to the prevalence of the MetS in hypertensive subjects.
- References to figure 2 were anticipated in the section "Pathophysiology of hypertension in metabolic syndrome"
- We have created a new section titled "Conclusions".

Reviewer 00599525

Many thanks you for your comments.

- The argument on the question whether the metabolic syndrome per se and not a single component has greater prognostic relevance has been widely discussed in various sections of the revised paper (pages 12, 13, 15)
- We have created a new section titled "Conclusions".

Reviewer 0053616

Many thanks you for your suggestions.

- The section "Prevalence in general population" was shortened, the subsection "Prevalence of metabolic syndrome in Asia", including the associated figure 1, was deleted. More space was devoted to the prevalence of the MetS in hypertensive subjects
- I disagree in summarizing the pathophysiology of hypertension in metabolic syndrome in figure 2, because the putative prohypertensive mechanisms are complex and therefore need to be fully explained in the text.
- Typographical and spelling errors throughout the text were corrected

Reviewer 0056276

- The article has been extensively revised with the addition of many new data on the cardiovascular risk and the target organ damage associated with the metabolic syndrome. Moreover, a paragraph about the potential mechanisms relating hyperuricemia and hypertension in the context of the metabolic syndrome, was also added in the new version of the paper
- We have created a new section titled “Conclusions”, that may be considered a summary of the paper.

Reviewer 227340

- The “metabolic syndrome’s story” was deleted and the introduction was shortened.
- I did not find the attached file including further comments.

Reviewer 2903592

Thank you so much for your comments.

- The introduction was shortened. A separate section regarding the various definitions of the metabolic syndrome was introduced in the revised version of the paper.
- In the last part of the introduction the following heading was added: “Is metabolic syndrome really a syndrome?”
- The subsection “Prevalence of metabolic syndrome in Asia”, including the associated figure 1, was deleted
- The original pathophysiology section was slightly reduced, even though we added a paragraph about the potential mechanisms relating hyperuricemia and hypertension in the context of the metabolic syndrome (see point 6).
- Reference numbers in table 2 were revised
- The role of hyperuricemia as a cause of hypertension in the context of the metabolic syndrome, was also discussed in the new version of the paper.
- The effect on mortality was discussed
- The relationships between resistant hypertension and metabolic syndrome were discussed at the end of the section about the prevalence of MetS and in the section of pathophysiology. The suggested paper PMID 20941645 regarding this topic was quoted.
- With the exception of the paper entitled: CPAP for the Metabolic Syndrome in Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea, that was not included because this article has retracted for relevant errors (see *N Engl J Med* 2013; 369:1770 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc1313105) all the other papers suggested by the referee (24561493; 24433108; 24525047; 17404171; 19139390; 24393433; 1589289) were included in the new version of the paper

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Sincerely yours,

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