

MJ -  
Decision on  
Manuscript  
ID  
BMJ-2019-  
048737.R1

**Body:** 06-Jun-2019

Dear Dr. Ekelund

Manuscript ID BMJ-2019-048737.R1 entitled "Dose-response associations between accelerometry measured physical activity and sedentary time with all-cause mortality: a systematic review and harmonised meta-analysis"

Thank you for sending us your paper. We sent it for external peer review again.

We hope very much that you will be willing and able to revise your paper as explained below in the reviewers comments. We are looking forward to reading the revised version and, we hope, reaching a decision.

When you return your revised manuscript, please note that The BMJ requires an ORCID iD for corresponding authors of all research articles. If you do not have an ORCID iD, registration is free and takes a matter of seconds.

Yours sincerely,

Tiago Villanueva  
Associate Editor  
tvillanueva@bmj.com

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In your response please provide, point by point, your replies to the comments made by the reviewers and the editors, explaining how you have dealt with them in the paper.

\*\* Comments from the external peer reviewers\*\*

Reviewer: 1

Recommendation:

Comments:

The authors adequately addressed the issues which I raised in the previous comments.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Masamitsu Kamada

Job Title: Assistant Professor

Institution: The University of Tokyo

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

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them here:

Reviewer: 2

Recommendation:

Comments:

All my previous comments had been addressed. I have no further comments.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: PaulLee

Job Title: Assistant Professor

Institution: Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

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them here:

Reviewer: 3

Recommendation:

Comments:

Thanks for addressing my comments. I have no further comments.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Jochen Klenk

Job Title: Professor

Institution: Institute of Epidemiology and Medical Biometry

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

If you have any competing interests <A

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Reviewer: 4

Recommendation:

Comments:

The authors have addressed all my concerns. I do not have further comments.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Jungwha Lee

Job Title: Association Professor

Institution: Northwestern University

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

If you have any competing interests <A HREF='http://www.bmj.com/about-bmj/resources-authors/forms-policies-and-checklists/declaration-competing-interests'target='\_new'> (please see BMJ policy) </a>please declare them here:

Reviewer: 5

Recommendation:

Comments:

The authors have responded to reviewers comments adequately and I would be happy to support publication of the manuscript. Having said that, there are three minor points that the authors might want to consider as I think will aid with some of the clarity in the results.

1) Figure(s) 2 - please provide within each subfigure a label to identify which exposure marker is being used for the comparison. This is done in the Figure Legends but given the number of subfigures, it would be much easier for a reader to keep track on each individual plot.

2) Figure(s) 3 - The points representing each one of the studies are misleading as, I believe, these are not what are being used to generate the splines. In a simple view, there is a perception that all dots are 'in the middle' suggesting generally that there is no association. The issue with this is that these dots are averages and do not take into consideration the differences within each study (which is the real strength in this paper). Please could you either delete these dots or think of alternative ways to represent this information which would not confuse readers?

3) The use of the Newcastle-Ottawa scale might attract criticism as ROBINS-I is now seen as a better (certainly newer) option. Please could you consider mentioning this in your Limitations section? The ROBINS-I page in Cochrane even suggests that the N-O score is an alternative so this might be used as reference.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Rafael Perera

Job Title: Professor of Medical Statistics

Institution: University of Oxford

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

If you have any competing interests <A

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