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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Authors' reply on the 'glycosylated haemoglobin and coronary atherosclerosis in non-diabetic patients: is it a prognostic factor?'

Dear Editor

I appreciate the comments of Mobasher Jannat et al. [1] on our paper recently published in Acta Cardiologica [2]. They are right, we did not do work-up to find and exclude the new cases of diabetes mellitus. We just excluded the previously diagnosed diabetes patients.

I rechecked the raw data and found 43 (10.5%) newly diagnosed diabetes cases (HbA1c $\geq$ 6.5%), 100 (24.3%) prediabetes cases (HbA1c: 6.0–6.4%), and 268 (65.2%) non-diabetic patients (HbA1c $<$ 6.0%) among our study population. Below you can find the revised results after exclusion of 43 diabetic patients.

Three-hundred and sixty-eight non-diabetic patients with mean age of 59.8 ± 12.3 years, mean serum HbA1c of 5.6 ± 0.37 and mean fasting blood sugar of 103.6 ± 15.9 md/dL were evaluated (Table 1).

The most accurate cut-off point for HbA1c to differentiate between patients with and without coronary atherosclerosis was remained at 5.45 ($p < .001$, sensitivity: .804, specificity: .621). The most accurate cut-off point for HbA1c to differentiate patients with severe coronary artery disease from the other patients was changed to 5.45 ($p < .001$, sensitivity: .868, specificity: .451). And the most accurate cut-off point for HbA1c to differentiate patients with 74–100% stenosis of coronary artery from other patients was changed to 5.45 ($p < .001$, sensitivity: .865, Specificity: .453).

Also the *r*-square value for binary logistic regression model to predict severe atherosclerosis was increased to 0.372 and the same variables were remained in the model ($p < .001$).

These minimal changes in the results after removing 43 diabetic patients cause no significant changes in the conclusion of paper.

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Table 1. Comparing fasting blood sugar (FBS) and haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) in patients with normal coronary angiography results, single vessel disease (SVD), two vessels disease (2VD) and three vessels disease (3VD).

Variables	Normal ($N = 67$)	SVD ($N = 119$)	2VD ($N = 106$)	3VD and more ($N = 76$)	*p* value
FBS, mg/dL	101.6 ± 15.1	102.7 ± 16.2	104.6 ± 16.5	105.6 ± 15.7	.398
HbA1c	5.36 ± 0.35	5.58 ± 0.36	5.65 ± 0.34	5.78 ± 0.33	$<$.001