

Dear Dr. xue,

We are pleased to inform you that, after preview by the Editorial Office and peer review, as well as CrossCheck and Google plagiarism detection, we believe that the academic quality, language quality, and ethics of your manuscript (Manuscript NO.: 58551, Basic Study) basically meet the publishing requirements of the World Journal of Diabetes. As such, we have made the preliminary decision that it acceptable for publication after your appropriate revision. Upon our receipt of your revised manuscript, we will send it for re-review. We will then make a final decision on whether to accept the manuscript not, based on the reviewers' comments, the quality of the revised manuscript, and the relevant Please follow the steps outlined below to revise your manuscript to meet the requirements for final acceptance and publication.

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Please resolve all issues in the manuscript based on the peer review report and make a point-by-point response to the issues raised in the peer review report. Authors must resolve all issues in the manuscript that are raised in the peer-review report(s) and make point-by-point responses to the issues raised in the peer-review report(s), which are listed below:

Reviewer #1:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade B (Very good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Minor revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** This is a very interesting study using a network Mendelian randomization (MR) to identify the causality between education and type 2 diabetes (T2DM) and the potential metabolic risk factors [coronary heart disease (CHD), total cholesterol (TC), low-density lipoprotein (LDL), triglycerides (TG), body mass index (BMI), waist circumference (WC), ratio (WHR), fasting insulin, fasting glucose and glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c)] from summarized genome-wide association study (GWAS) data The authors report a causal role of genetically short education on the increased risk of T2DM, which might be partially mediated by increased BMI. I would suggest that the authors describe the genetic analysis in a lilltle more detail so that the results become more clear for the reader

Answer: Thank you very much for the suggestion. We have added more details about the genetic analysis in the revised manuscript. We extracted the following data for each genetic instrument for traits from GWAS of the following outcomes: the effect allele (EA), effect allele frequency (EAF), Beta value, standard error (SE), SNP, and P-value. The following metrics of SNP genotype quality were requested. There were strong evidence of between-study heterogeneity in the SNP-trait association ( $P \leq 0.005$ ). Imputation quality metric (info or  $r^2$ )  $\leq 0.90$  or Hardy-Weinberg disequilibrium ( $P \leq 0.001$ ) (Line 96-103). Our MR study was conducted on the MR-Base platform online (<http://www.mrbase.org>) (Line 116-117).

#### **4 LANGUAGE QUALITY**

Please resolve all language issues in the manuscript based on the peer review report. Please be sure to have a native-English speaker edit the manuscript for grammar, sentence structure, word usage, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, format, and general readability, so that the manuscript's language will meet our direct publishing needs.

Answer: Thank you very much for the suggestion. We have improved the writing quality in the revised manuscript by a native-English speaker and Grammarly software.

#### **5 EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS**

Authors must revise the manuscript according to the Editorial Office's comments and suggestions, which are listed below:

(1) Science editor: 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a "basic study" of the network MR for education and type 2 diabetes. The topic is within the scope of the WJD. (1) Classification: Grade B; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: This is a very interesting study. The authors report a causal role of genetically determined short education on the increased risk of T2DM, which might be partially mediated by increased BMI. The reviewer suggests the authors describe the genetic analysis in a more detail so that the results become more clearly for the reader. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; and (3) Format: There are 3 tables and 1 figure. A total of 33 references are cited, including 11 references published in the last 3 years. There are no self-citations. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B. The authors need to provide the right language certificate, not the invoice. 3 Academic norms and rules: The authors provided the signed Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form. The authors need to provide the signed Copyright License Agreement. No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. The highest single-source similarity index in the CrossCheck report showed to be 7%. According to our policy, the overall similarity index should be less than 30%, and the single-source similarity should be less than 5%. Please rephrase these repeated sentences. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an unsolicited manuscript. The study was supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China. The topic has not previously been published in the WJD. The corresponding author has not published articles in the BPG. 5 Issues raised: (1) I found no "Author contribution" section. Please provide the author contributions; (2) I found the authors did not provide the approved grant application form(s). Please upload the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s); (3) I found the authors did not provide the original figures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using

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**Answer:** Thank you very much for the suggestion. We have revised the manuscript according to the Editorial Office’s comments and suggestions. Please see the resubmitted files.

(2) Editorial office director: I have checked the comments written by the science editor.

(3) Company editor-in-chief: I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report and the full text of the manuscript, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted with major revisions. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Before final acceptance, authors need to correct the issues raised by the editor to meet the publishing requirements. Re-Review: Required.

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Best regards,

Na Ma, Company Editor-in-Chief, Editorial Office

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