

Reply: Prevalence of hypertension and prehypertension in schoolchildren from Central India

Sir,

We thank commenter(s) for taking interest in our study titled “Prevalence of hypertension and prehypertension in schoolchildren from Central India” Published in the May–August 2019 issue of the journal.^[1]

Our study was conducted as part of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Jai Vigyan mission mode project on “community control of rheumatic fever/rheumatic heart disease” (2007–2014). We used the “Fourth Report on the Diagnosis, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure in Children and Adolescents” published in 2004 because it was the only reference standard available till 2017 when we conducted the study.^[2]

The study of Sayeemuddin *et al.* referred by the commenter(s) was also based on the same reference standard.^[3] To the best of our knowledge, the study of Sayeemuddin *et al.*, from a single center, based on selected group of children from higher social strata, without any multivariate analysis, has not formed a basis for creating Indian pediatric population blood pressure reference centile curves.^[3]

We have included children from different socioeconomic backgrounds in our study to take care of possible variation in blood pressure that might occur based on nutritional, ethnic, and socioeconomic variables that has been referred by the commenter(s).

Acknowledgment

We acknowledge the valuable guidance from late Professor R. Tandon for designing and conducting the study.

Financial support and sponsorship

The present study was conducted as part of Jai Vigyan Mission mode project on “Community Control of Rheumatic fever/Rheumatic Heart Disease” and funded by the ICMR, New Delhi, India.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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Access this article online	
Quick Response Code: 	Website: www.annalspc.com
	DOI: 10.4103/apc.APC_90_19

How to cite this article: Patel A, Bharani A, Sharma M, Bhagwat A, Ganguli N, Chouhan DS. Reply: Prevalence of hypertension and prehypertension in schoolchildren from Central India. *Ann Pediatr Card* 2019;12:349.

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