



January 21, 2021

Pradeep Natarajan, MD  
185 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02214

Dear Dr. Natarajan,

The Jackson Heart Study (JHS) Publications and Presentations Subcommittee (PPS) thank you for your manuscript titled "Bidirectional Mendelian Randomization Reveals Bidirectional Causality Between Telomere Length and Clonal Hematopoiesis of Intermediate Potential". The sequential number M1310 has been assigned to your manuscript, so please reference this number should you have to inquire about this manuscript. The PPS decision regarding your manuscript was to "**accept with comments**". Evaluator's comments are attached for your review. Please review the guidelines below regarding the publication of your manuscript.

Manuscripts with National Institutes of Health (NIH) author/co-authors must be reviewed by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). In this case, the lead author must send the manuscript and a copy of the PPS letter of approval via email to NHLBI at [nhlbi\\_ebpdocs@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:nhlbi_ebpdocs@nhlbi.nih.gov) and copy the Project Officer, Jared Reis at [reisjp@nhlbi.nih.gov](mailto:reisjp@nhlbi.nih.gov) before submission to a journal for publication.

The following **acknowledgement** and **disclaimer** must be included in your submitted manuscript:

**JHS acknowledgement-** The Jackson Heart Study (JHS) is supported and conducted in collaboration with Jackson State University (HHSN268201800013I), Tougaloo College (HHSN268201800014I), the Mississippi State Department of Health (HHSN268201800015I) and the University of Mississippi Medical Center (HHSN268201800010I, HHSN268201800011I and HHSN268201800012I) contracts from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). The authors also wish to thank the staffs and participants of the JHS.

**JHS disclaimer-** The views expressed in this manuscript are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; the National Institutes of Health; or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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We look forward to your final product.

Sincerely,

Mario Sims, PhD, MS, FAHA  
Chair, Publications and Presentations Subcommittee

**Evaluator's Comments:**

1. Very nice TOPMed paper. I have no concerns.
2. Should JHS acknowledgement be listed at the end of this manuscript?