

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Anonymous Peer Reviewer  
MSc IMS Candidate  
Western University  
1151 Richmond St,  
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Dear Anonymous Peer Reviewer:

First and foremost, I would like to thank you for your time spent in revising our research grant proposal and providing your feedback to enhance our project. Your feedback will be considered and suggested edits will be appropriately made.

I would first like to approach the visual abstract. Your comments were brought to the team's attention, and we agree with all the feedback provided. We do believe that a running person icon will better represent aerobic exercise and will result in a broader population understanding the message. Moreover, we also agree that the arrows are indicative of a sequential order which can mislead the viewer. Therefore, we have decided to omit the arrows. Lastly, we agree that incorporating a statement regarding the research impact is necessary to provide the viewer context on importance.

Moving forth to the layman summary, we appreciate all the suggested revisions made. With further discussion, we do agree that some parts may seem too vague, however believe that the sentence regarding the second study accurately represents theme 2, as it breaks down the interventions and what we are measuring. We do not go into depth with the methodologies as we believe it will complicate the summary for a lay audience. We will revise the layman summary to ensure that the appropriate amount of detail is included.

The next section is the HQP statement. We are truly grateful for all your suggested edits. We agree that it is important to state the disciplines the HQP's will hail from. We did state that they would be students from varying levels of education interested in pursuing different areas of research as a career, however we believe that we were unclear. We will change that sentence to improve clarity. We also will implement your edit regarding the break between the training philosophy and research training to distinguish between the two concepts. Although, we do state that we will require all our team members to complete designated training on equity, diversity and inclusion, we agree that we need to further elaborate on how we will incorporate inclusivity.

Lastly, we thank you for your feedback on the SGBA+ analysis. With further discussion it has been decided to incorporate specific examples on differences that sex and gender can impose on research, as we agree it can provide further clarity. Although we plan on using existing databases for the SGBA+ analysis, we do agree that a statement regarding the inclusivity nature of the data used is essential.

I acknowledge the complexity in sentence structure being due to a lack of clear communication, and hence will be making your suggested revisions for improved clarity and conciseness.

We are very grateful for your time and letter of suggested edits.

Kind Regards,  
The Research Team