Ms. Avital Braiman

Director of Editorial

Journal of Visualized Experiments

1 Alewife Center, Suite 200

Cambridge, MA 02140

Dear Ms. Braiman,

I have enclosed a manuscript entitled “Assessment of child anthropometry in a large epidemiologic study” for publication in Journal of Visualized Experiments. The attached manuscript has not been published or submitted elsewhere. My institution, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, Harvard Medical School has acknowledged the submission of this publication. The work featured is fully sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, grant R37 HD 034568.

Proper and consistent anthropometric measurement technique is essential for field-based studies that monitor healthy development, obesity, and overall growth. These measures are challenging to complete in a consistent manner, without the help of visual guidance indicating proper anatomical measurement sites, positioning, posture, and hand placement. Even minor variations in any of these could affect the accuracy of the measure. At Project Viva, a pre-birth cohort study, we have standardized and refined our anthropometry protocol, training, and quality control procedures over the last 17 years. All of our efforts over the past 17 years could serve as a resource for other studies. On a broader scale, we hope to inspire the use of standardized techniques in order to improve comparison among literature and pooling of results.

This manuscript has been assisted by two JoVE Associate Editors, Allison Diamond and Leyla Omeragic and yourself.

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