Note: The manuscript has previously been submitted to PlosOne but has not been reviewed. To be transparent, we copy and paste the email interaction to explain why the stage 2 of the registered report is not published with the same journal as the stage 1:

## **Journal Response**

Dear Emily Chenette,

thanks for making this problem transparent. I understand that the pre-registered report format poses challenges. However, other journals will question why I do not submit to the journal that has previously published the stage 1. So, I will also need to make this transparent.

All the best.

Dominic Lemken

-----Ursprüngliche Nachricht-----

Von: em.pone.0.7d0bd6.5140fa71@editorialmanager.com <em.pone.0.7d0bd6.5140fa71@editorialmanager.com> Im Auftrag

von PLOS ONE

Gesendet: Montag, 1. August 2022 15:20

An: Lemken, Dominic <dominic.lemken@agr.uni-goettingen.de>

Betreff: Manuscript PONE-D-22-05991 withdrawn from PLOS ONE - [EMID:f16861b1048e8baa]

Dear Dr. Lemken,

I am writing with the difficult news that we have not been able to secure an Academic Editor to handle your manuscript "The price penalty for red meat substitutes in popular dishes - consumers prefer reduced meat portions – A registered report" (PONE-D-22-05991). Additionally, we have been unable to secure feedback from peer reviewers. We have therefore reluctantly decided that we must return your manuscript to you without review.

I recognize that this decision will be frustrating — it is our desire to provide every suitable manuscript the opportunity for review and evaluation by experts in the research community — and I sincerely apologize that we have not been able to do so in this case. We have exhausted the pool of potential PLOS ONE Academic Editors qualified to handle your manuscript but have not been able to secure a commitment to handle the submission. We have also invited a number of peer reviewers with relevant expertise, but we have not been able to secure the reviews required to support an editorial decision. We are withdrawing your manuscript from consideration to prevent further delays in the assessment of your submission, and so that you can move forward immediately if you choose to submit your work elsewhere.

Again, I am very sorry not to have more positive news for you. I wish you the best in finding an alternative venue for this work.

Best regards,

Emily Chenette Editor-in-Chief PLOS ONE

In compliance with data protection regulations, you may request that we remove your personal registration details at any time. (Use the following URL: <a href="https://www.editorialmanager.com/pone/login.asp?a=r">https://www.editorialmanager.com/pone/login.asp?a=r</a>). Please contact the publication office if you have any questions.