Dear Editor,

I am pleased to submit our manuscript entitled **“Sex Representation in U.S. Clinical Trials: Statistical Evidence of Equity in Study Design”** for consideration for publication in *BMC Public Health*.

This study offers one of the first formal statistical tests of whether contemporary U.S. clinical trials meet expectations for sex representation based on national demographics. Using a dataset of 1,825 U.S.-based clinical trials spanning more than two decades, we find that female inclusion now closely aligns with the U.S. population benchmark (50.8% female), with no significant deviations across disease categories. Temporal analysis further reveals a significant and sustained increase in equitable inclusion over time.

These findings challenge longstanding concerns about systemic female underrepresentation in clinical research, demonstrating that recent policy interventions may have successfully improved sex equity—at least at the level of study design. However, we emphasize that equity in eligibility criteria does not guarantee equity in enrollment or outcomes, and our work provides a reproducible framework for monitoring these deeper layers of research equity.

We believe this manuscript will be of strong interest to *BMC Public Health*’s readership, particularly those engaged in research equity, clinical trial design, and public health policy. It aligns with the journal’s focus on diversity, inclusion, and improving evidence-based medicine.

I also wish to disclose that this work was conducted independently and without external funding. As the sole author, I take full responsibility for the analysis, writing, and accuracy of the data. I would also like to request consideration for a full or partial article processing charge (APC) waiver due to financial hardship.

This manuscript is original, has not been published, and is not under consideration elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be honored to contribute to your journal’s important mission.

Sincerely,

**R. Craig Stillwell, Ph.D.**

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