Title

The relationship between obesity, leptin, adiponectin and the components of metabolic syndrome in urban African women

**Authors**

Sanet van Zyl, gnfssvz@ufs.ac.za

Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Lynette J van der Merwe, merwelj@ufs.ac.za

Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Francois C van Rooyen, vanrooyenfc@ufs.ac.za

Department of Biostatistics, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Gina Joubert, gnbsgj@ufs.ac.za

Department of Biostatistics, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Corinna M Walsh, walshcm@ufs.ac.za

Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

**Corresponding author**

Dr. Sanet van Zyl

Department of Basic Medical Sciences (G25)

Faculty of Health Sciences

University of the Free State

PO Box 339

Bloemfontein

9300

South Africa

Telephone: +27 51 401 7880

Email address: [gnfssvz.md@ufs.ac.za](mailto:gnfssvz.md@ufs.ac.za)

**Acknowledgements**

The AHA FS research group gratefully acknowledges the National Research Foundation (NRF) for financial support. We value the contribution of the communities who participated in this study. Dr. Daleen Struwig, medical writer, Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS, is acknowledged for technical and editorial preparation of the manuscript.

**Competing interests**

The authors have no conflict of interest to declare with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

**Authors' contributions**

C.M.W. (University of the Free State) was the principal investigator. A.J.G. (University of the Free State) was involved with blood sampling. S.v.Z. (University of the Free State) and L.v.d.M. (University of the Free State) performed the medical examinations. F.C.v.R. and G.J. (University of the Free State) performed the statistical analysis. S.v.Z. wrote the manuscript.