**Title page**

**Peri-conceptional diet patterns and the risk of Gestational diabetes mellitus in South Indian women**

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**Ethical Standards Disclosure: This study was conducted according to the guidelines laid down in the Declaration of Helsinki and all procedures involving research study participants were approved by the ethics committees of** of Baptist Hospital, Cloudnine Hospitals**,** CSI Holdsworth Memorial Hospital, Mysore and the Health Ministry Screening Committee of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Government of India. **Written informed consent was obtained from all subjects/patients.**

**Contributions to authorship**

CHDF, AM, KK, GVK and SHK designed the study. AM supervised the data collection and running of the project till completion and performed the statistical analysis. AM and CF interpreted the data. AM wrote the manuscript. NA, P and PK provided the study participants. GN provided intellectual inputs and supported the study. SRC, MJ & CO provided statistical advice and CO calculated sample size. All authors reviewed and revised the draft.