

## **Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Correlation between Patients' Reasons for Encounters/Health Problems and Population Density in Japan: A Systematic Review of Observational Studies Coded by the International Classification of Health Problems in Primary Care (ICHPPC)" and the International Classification of Primary Care (ICPC)

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### **Author's response to reviews:**

Responses to the editors' comments

Thank you very much for your constructive feedback.

Editor's comment #1

We note that you have stated "No funding was received for this study" in the Acknowledgements section. If you have no acknowledgements please state 'Not Applicable' in this section.

Response #1

We changed the sentence from "No funding was received for this study" to "Not applicable" in the Acknowledgements section. (page 22, lines 340)

### Editor's comment #2

In the Availability of data and materials section we suggest using the statement “All data generated or analysed during this study are included in this published article [and its supplementary information files]” as it is a more suitable statement for your study.

### Response #2

We changed the sentence from “Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analyzed during the current study.” to “All data generated or analyzed during this study are included in this published article and its supplementary information files.” in the Availability of data and materials section. (page 20, 313-314)

### Editor's comment #3

Please remove the embedded figure legends from within the figure files. Please note that all figure titles/legends should be placed at the end of the main manuscript, after the References, and not within any of the figure files.

Please also note that multi-panel figures should be submitted as a single composite file that contains all parts of the figure. Please therefore upload figures 2-1 and 2-2 within a single composite file. Please also rename figures 2-1 and 2-2 to figures 2a and 2b respectfully. Please also ensure that this change has been made in the manuscript text.

Please see our guidelines for further information on how to prepare your figures <http://bmcfampract.biomedcentral.com/submission-guidelines/preparing-your-manuscript#preparing+figure>

### Response #3

We removed the embedded figure legends from within the figure files and uploaded figures 2-1 and 2-2 within a single composite file. We also renamed figures 2-1 and 2-2 to figures 2a and 2b in the figure and the manuscript, respectively.

#### Editor's comment #4

Please move all tables to the end of the manuscript, after the References, instead of within the manuscript text.

Thank you for providing Table 4 as an additional file. Please note that when you include an additional file you must list the following information in a 'Additional files' section after the References:

- File name
- Title of data
- Description of data

Please see our guidelines for further information on how to prepare your tables <http://bmcfampract.biomedcentral.com/submission-guidelines/preparing-your-manuscript#preparing+tables>

#### Response #4

We moved all tables to the end of the manuscript, after the References. We also added the Additional files section as below;

File name: Table 4 (additional file 1)

File format: .xls

Title of data: Details of included studies

Description of data: The file includes the details of included studies such as year of publication and setting.

Editor's comment #5

We note that you have stated that your manuscript adheres to the PRISMA statement. Please can you provide a reference to PRISMA after this statement. Please see the PRISMA website for more information on how to do this <http://www.prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/CitingAndUsingPRISMA.aspx>

Response #5

Thank you for your important advice. We provided a reference after the statement in our manuscript.

Editor's comment #6

Please submit your revised manuscript as a clean copy without any tracked changes, coloured or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

Response #6

We submitted our revised manuscript as a clean copy without any tracked changes, coloured or highlighted text.

We believe that incorporating your advice into the previous version has made the manuscript better. Thank you once again.