Author's response to reviews

Title: Vertebral fractures and self-perceived health in elderly women and men: The Tromso Study, a population-based cross-sectional study

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Version: 3 Date: 27 February 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the revised version of our manuscript MS: 9387028018077352. We are greatly thankful for the constructive comments from the reviewer Stephen Thielke and Editor. Based on the comments, we have made major changes to the manuscript which has been through editing service from Edanz.

1. Table 2: footnote excluded and a separate Table 3 illustrates the results from the multivariate analyses.
2. There are several language changes made in the text, please see the revised version.
3. The revised manuscript should now strictly conform to the journal style, with help from Edanz.
4. We have addressed the comments to the reviewer below.

On behalf of my co-authors and with best regards,

Svanhild Waterloo
corresponding author
Dear reviewer Stephen Thielke,

We are thankful for new constructive comments to our manuscript, and according to those, we have made the following changes:

1. On page 3, we have changed the second aim according to your suggestion.
2. On page 5, in the method section, we have added information on the ascertainment of vertebral fractures. It is the Lunar software that defines if there is a fracture or not (and which type), based on the measured vertebral heights (please see the revised version).
3. Page 5: we have added information on knowledge of the strong association between BMD and fracture risk, thereby indicating why we adjusted for BMD in the multivariable analyses.
4. Page 6: we have added information concerning the question on back pain and neck pain.
5. Page 8: we have changed “lower stature” to “shorter”.
6. Page 8-9: we have clarified the statistical significance level, and changed the text concerning the association between vertebral fractures and EQ VAS score (please see the revised version).

The revised version has been through language editing (Edanz).

Best regards,
Svanhild Waterloo