Author's response to reviews

Title: The minimal clinically important difference of six-minute walk in Asian older adults

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to reviewer’s comments

The minimal clinically important difference of six-minute walk in Asian older adults

Boon Chong Kwok
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The manuscript has been revised and the replies to the comments made by the reviewer are reported in this document.
Response to 1st reviewer’s comments: Torunn Askim

Thank you for the suggestion to further enhance our manuscript. Below is the response to the feedback about the manuscript. We hope that the response has addressed your concern about our manuscript Discussion section.

Minor revision:

The SEM value takes into account the measurement error (SD and ICC) for the 6MWD, hence, the anchor based MCID should exceed the SEM value. Your SEM value was estimated to 12.9 meters while the anchor based MCID was estimated to 17.8 meters, indicating that your MCID exceeded the measurement error, which again strengthen your findings. This issue should be taken into consideration in your discussion before final acceptance for publication.

Response: The authors have revised the Discussion section paragraph one to address this concern to further strengthen our discussion and quoted below.

“Furthermore, the MCID estimate from the anchor-based method should exceed the SEM from the distribution method [12, 25]. Hence, the MCID estimate of 17.8 m in this study was valid because it was above the measurement error of the 6MWD.”