Author's response to reviews

Title: Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices KAP related to the Pandemic (H1N1)

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

Thank you for your reply. We would like to resubmit the manuscript entitled “Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) related to the Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 among Chinese General Population: a Telephone Survey” (MS: 8671536945255714).

We have addressed, point-by-point, the issues raised by the reviewer and the editor listed them as follow. The amendments are highlighted in blue in this revised version.

We hope you will consider this paper anew in light of the comments on the earlier version.

Thank you for reconsidering this revised version.

Yours sincerely

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Response to the editor’s comments and requests:

Comment 1: The reviewer has one further comment about inclusion of all forced socioeconomic variables in Tables 3 and 4. To my understanding, you have followed this reviewer's previous suggestion to include all such variables in the multivariate analysis. The only one not separately listed in Table 3 is region.
Response: Thank you for the comment. Yes, we have analyzed all variables including region with per category level in the multivariate regression models as the reviewer suggested. The region factor which was not our interest in analyzing the associations between background-characters and the KAP of A/H1N1 may cause bias, so we forced it in the models without presenting in the tables.

Comment 2: Further consideration of your manuscript is conditional on improvement of the English used. Please ensure particular attention is paid to the abstract. You should have a native English speaking colleague help you with this, if possible, or use a commercial copyediting service.
Response: Thank you for the comment. Yes, we totally have realized our limitation in expression by English, and we have tried all our best to improve our English expression. We have made lots of revision in English expression especially in the abstract part which was listed in the back.

Comment 3: Please can you include the statement of ethics in the Method's section of your manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate.
Response: Thanks for the suggestion. This study had been approved by the institutional review board of the Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology and we have added the related information in Method’s section (page 8, line 16)

Comment 4: Please can you include a copy of the questionnaire as an additional file.
Response: Thank you for the suggestion. We have submitted an additional file related to the questionnaire (appendix1).
Response to reviewer Michaël Schwarzinger,

**Comment 1:** I would only suggest that forced socioeconomics factors in the models of Tables 3 and 4 should also be presented in each Table.

**Response:** Thank you for the suggestion. We analyzed the dependent variables in the multivariate regression models with per category level of each selected variable: age (4 categories), level of education (3 categories), occupation (8 categories), region (9 categories), survey wave (3 categories), perception of the adverse reaction of A/H1N1 vaccine (3 categories), and the other variables (2 categories). The whole category levels including in each model were too many to present in the table. As a result, we only presented our interest factors associating with the KAP of A/H1N1 in Table 3-5 without forced socioeconomics factors which were used to control the bias.

**We list the revised contents as follows:**
- Page 2, line 2: replacing “highly susceptible to” by “at greatest risk of”;
- Page 2, line 3: replacing “confused” by “unclear”;
- Page 2, line 4: adding “among general population” before “may lead to unnecessary worry”;
- Page 2, line 5: deleting “excessive” before “panic”;
- Page 2, line 6: adding “pandemic” before “and provide baseline data” and “to develop public education campaigns in response to” before “future outbreaks”;
- Page 2, line 7: deleting “for” before “future outbreaks” and replacing “outbreak” by “outbreaks”;
- Page 2, line 9: replacing “utilized” by “applied”;
- Page 2, line 10: replacing “KAP” by “knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP)”;
- Page 2, line 13: replacing “Many subjects” by “30.0% respondents”; replacing “confused” by “not clear”; deleting “or indirect hand contact” before “spread H1N1 virus and”;
- Page 2, line 14: deleting “respondents” before “reported that the pandemic”;
- Page 2, line 15: adding “and those” before “with lower education level”;
Page 2, line 17: adding “(cough or talk face to face)” after “the main transmission route” and adding “and those” before “with college and above education”;
Page 2, line 18: deleting “There were possible” before “relationship between knowledge and risk perception”;
Page 2, line 19: replacing “relationship” by “Relationships”;
Page 2, line 20: adding “and” before “knowledge and practices” and “were found among the study subjects” after “knowledge and practices (OR=1.57; 95% CI 1.42-1.73)”;
Page 2, line 21: replacing “Adjusting for socio-demographic factors,” by “With regard to the behavior of taking up A/H1N1 vaccination, there are several related factors found in the current study population, including the”; 
Page 3, line 2: deleting “and” before “the safety of A/H1N1 vaccine”; 
Page 3, line 2: adding “the” before “knowledge”, replacing “about the” by “of” and deleting “and” before “the state’s initial vaccination strategy”; 
Page 3, line 4: replacing “the the state's initial vaccination strategy” by “the state's priority vaccination strategy” and adding “and” before “taking up seasonal influenza vaccine behavior”;
Page 3, line 5: deleting “were significantly associated with the behavior of taking up A/H1N1 vaccination” after “(OR=4.69; 95% CI 3.53-6.23)”;
Page 3, line 7 to 10: replacing “The knowledge about the transmission of A/H1N1 among residents is not optimistic although this pandemic (H1N1) 2009 has not caused Chinese public panic yet. Health educational strategies are strongly needed to promote A/H1N1 vaccination” by “This A/H1N1 epidemic has not caused public panic yet, but the knowledge of A/H1N1 in residents is not optimistic. Public education campaign may take the side effects of vaccine and the knowledge about the state’s vaccination strategy into account.”
Page 4, line 13: adding “virus” after “the high infectiousness of this novel influenza”;
Page 5, line 2: replacing “are” by “were” and adding “public” before “reports on the assessment”;

Page 5, line 7: replacing “and aggravating” by “which would aggravate”;

Page 5, line 8: replacing “misperceptions” by “misconceptions”;

Page 5, line 9: replacing “the public resistant” by “the resistance of public”;

Page 5, line 9: adding “the suggested” before “preventive measures”;

Page 5, line 10: deleting “or” before “going to hospital”;

Page 5, line 11: replacing “the disease” by “SARS”;

Page 5, line 13: replacing “the demand for certain goods and services may be reduced and the economic output may decline due to the panic resulting in huge economic loss.” by “the panic of infectious disease outbreak could cause huge economic loss, for example”;

Page 5, line 16: replacing “surveillance of” by “monitoring”;

Page 5, line 18: replacing “the role of specific perceptions in motivating” by “related factors affecting”;

Page 5, line 19: replacing “give appropriate advices” by “take appropriate measures”;

Page 6, line 2: replacing “Chinese residents” by “general population in China”

Page 8, line 3: replacing “in” by “at”;

Page 8, line 4: replacing “would add” by “added”;

Page 8, line 5: deleting “If there was nobody answering the phone, we would not give up this number until the phone was disconnected itself.” after “dial again”;

Page 8, line 5: adding “or of no response” after “If the line was busy”;
Page 8, line 13: deleting “most” before “variables in the questionnaire”;

Page 8, line 14: deleting “in this study” after “The inclusion criteria of subjects”

Page 8, line 15: deleting “This study was approved by the institutional review board of the Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology.”

Page 8, line 18 to 21: adding “This study was approved by the institutional review board of the Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology. All respondents were informed consent. We respected their wishes whether to accept our survey and promised to protect their secrets.”

Page 9, line 6: adding “then” before “stepwise logistic regression”;

Page 9, line 7: adding “applied” after “stepwise logistic regression modeling” and replacing the brackets by “including”;

Page 9, line 9: replacing “fit for dependent variables concerning KAP related to A/H1N1” by “applied to investigate the impact factors associated with the risk perception of A/H1N1, A/H1N1 vaccination uptake and the compliance with suggested preventive measures (avoid crowd places/wash hand frequently/keep distance from people with influenza-like symptoms). For the purposes of analysis, the factor knowledge about the main modes of transmission was divided into two groups according to whether the respondents knew both cough and talk face-to-face can spread A/H1N1”;

Page 9, line 16: replacing “considered” by “judged”;

Page 10, line 6: replacing “Except for refusing answers and interrupting during survey” by “Among these respondents”;
Page 10, line 8: replacing “wrong or inconsistent” by “logical erroneous” and adding “in total” after “10669 questionnaires”;

Page 10, line 10: deleting “and the 25-54 year old group accounted for 55.3%” after “The mean age of all respondents was 41.47 years (over range: 18-90 year)”;

Page 10, line 11: deleting “and 46.3% had attended junior and senior school education,” after “54.4% were female”;

Page 10, line 13: deleting “population’s” after “The over”, “the” before “A/H1N1 was reported in Table 2” and “of all respondents” after “As to knowledge”;

Page 10, line 14: adding “of all respondents” before “knew that influenza could be transmitted by coughing”;

Page 10, line 16: replacing “was” by “could be”;

Page 10, line 19: replacing “Junior and senior” by “middle” and adding “or having an education level of” before “college and above”;

Page 10, line 20: replacing “answer knowledge questions about transmission correctly comparing with primary school and illiterate” by “know the transmission routes comparing with other people”;

Page 11, line 2: replacing “the knowledgeable level in residents” by “the related knowledge of H1N1 among residents”;

Page 11, line 4: replacing “residents” by “respondents” and adding “prevention and control” before “strategies for pandemic”;

Page 11, line 5: replacing “for residents” by “of charge”;

Page 11, line 7: replacing “related to” by “towards”;
Page 11, line 8: replacing “total participants” by “all respondents”, adding “that” before “the influenza pandemic” and replacing “disturbed” by “disturbing”;

Page 11, line 11: deleting “respondents considered the risk for them of being infected significantly higher if they were” after “Multiple logistic regression analysis showed that”;

Page 11, line 11: replacing “people having” by “had”;

Page 11, line 12: replacing “people knowing” by “knew”;

Page 11, line 14, replacing “but significantly lower in those with above 65 years old (OR=0.77; 95%CI 0.62-0.96)” by “were more likely to believe that they were at high risk of being infected”;

Page 11, line 16: replacing “Considering” by “Regarding” and “residents” by “respondents”;

Page 11, line 18: replacing “to” by “of”;

Page 11, line 19: deleting “initial” before “vaccination strategy was reasonable”;

Page 11, line 21: adding “the ” before “respondents (42.9%) had avoided” and replacing “crowd” by “crowded”;

Page 11, line 22: replacing “week” by “weeks”, “someone” by “people” and “got” by “held”;

Page 12, line 3: replacing “was” by “were” and adding “to be taken” before “by those who were females”;

Page 12, line 4: replacing “female” by “females” and adding “old people” before “above 65 years old (OR=1.34; 95%CI 1.06-1.69)”;
Page 12, line 5: replacing “and” by “people” and “Junior and senior” by “middle”;
Page 12, line 6: replacing “and” by “or” and “who perceived” by “people perceiving”;
Page 12, line 7: deleting “by A/H1N1” after “higher risk of being infected”, deleting “by” before “those” and adding “who” before “knew the main modes of transmission”;
Page 12, line 8: replacing “in office staffs” by “to be taken by staff working in office”;
Page 12, line 10: replacing “were” by “became”;
Page 12, line 14: replacing “analyzing the associations between background characters and taking up the A/H1N1 vaccination further showed that residents in the other occupations (OR=0.06-0.67) exclude the health care workers (OR=1.52; 95%CI 1.09-2.11) had less taken up the A/H1N1 vaccination comparing with students, but gender, age and education level factors were not significant (in Table 3)” by “further showed that except the health care workers (OR =1.52; 95%CI 1.09-2.11), residents in other occupations (OR=0.06-0.67) were less likely to take up the A/H1N1 vaccination comparing with students (in Table 3)”;
Page 12, line 17: replacing “factors, stepwise models showed that” by “covariates the”;
Page 12, line 20: replacing “related to” by “of”;
Page 12, line 22: replacing “but” by “and”;
Page 13, line 1: adding “influenced people’s practice” after “adverse reaction of A/H1N1 vaccine negatively”;
Page 13, line 3: deleting “the” after “Novel A/H1N1 has caused”, replacing “of” by
“in” and deleting “for the disease prevention” after “It is important”;

Page 13, line 5: deleting “at first” after “appropriate response among residents”;

Page 13, line 16: replacing “was increasing” by “would increase”;

Page 13, line 17: replacing “related” by “due”;

Page 13, line 18: deleting “further” after “Multivariate analysis results”;

Page 13, line 19: replacing “be knowledgeable” by “have this knowledge”;

Page 13, line 20: replacing “content” by “contents” and “format” by “forms”;

Page 14, line 1: replacing “foodborne” by “food borne” and “confused understanding” by “previous knowledge”;

Page 14, line 3: adding “with avian flu” before “might mislead” and replacing “many” by “some”;

Page 14, line 5: replacing “consistently” by “continuously”;

Page 14, line 15: replacing “suggest” by “suggested”;

Page 14, line 18: replacing “infection” by “being infected”;

Page 14, line 20: deleting “on KAP related to A/H1N1” after “The previous study” and replacing “associations between background characters and” by “results of influencing factors on”;

Page 15, line 1: replacing “hand” by “hands”;

Page 15, line 2: deleting “the” after “in another pandemic study in” and replacing “age” by “people”;

Page 15, line 5: replacing “student” by “students”;

Page 15, line 6: deleting “differences in” before “study population demographics”;
Page 15, line 10: replacing “indicates” by “indicated”;

Page 15, line 19: adding “people” before “with chronic diseases”;

Page 15, line 20: adding “to get” after “recommended”, deleting “A” before “Data provided” and replacing “Chinese” by “China”;

Page 15, line 22: adding “which was” before “much lower than 7.5%”;

Page 16, line 2: replacing “indiscrimination” by “confusion”;

Page 16, line 7: deleting “only” after “European travelers showed”;

Page 16, line 13: replacing “non-significant” by “insignificantly”;

Page 16, line 15: replacing “if there are changes in the level of knowledge about its mode of transmission” by “the knowledge of its transmission mode improved”;

Page 16, line 16: replacing “However” by “Additionally”;

Page 16, line 17: replacing “affection” by “influence”;

Page 16, line 18: replacing “and” by “as well as the”;

Page 16, line 21: replacing “useful” by “helpful”;

Page 16, line 22: replacing “public” by “population”;

Page 17, line 7: adding “the” before “lack of their basic information”;

Page 17, line 11: replacing “various associations between” by “many factors influencing the” and deleting “and background factors” after “KAP related to A/H1N1”;

Page 17, line 12: replacing “education” by “educational level”;

Page 17, line 13: replacing “Promotion programs may take the acceptability of side effect and the knowledge about the state’s strategy related to A/H1N1 vaccination
into account” by “Public education campaign may take the side effects of vaccine and the knowledge about the state’s vaccination strategy into account”;

Page 23, line 19: replacing “Junior and senior school” by “Middle school”;

Page 25, line 16: replacing “Junior and senior school” by “Middle school”;

Questionnaire part: replacing “Junior and senior school” by “Middle school”;