Author's response to reviews

Title: Effect of meteorological variables on the incidence of Hand, foot, and mouth disease in children: a time-series analysis in Guangzhou, China

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

Thank you very much for your letter of the 24th October 2012 about Editorial Requirements for ethics statement of our manuscript. As requested, we have provided an itemized list of changes to the manuscript according Editorial Request for ethics statement below:

In response to Editor

Concern 1: Research involving human subjects (including human material or human data) that is reported in the manuscript must have been performed with the approval of an appropriate ethics committee. Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html). A statement to this effect must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate.

1. Ethics statement is provided in the first part of Methods section of our manuscript on page 7.

“No human subjects work was undertaken in our research, hand, foot, and mouth disease case data were extracted from weekly reports of Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC). These reports are prepared government reports, providing summarized count data of patients diagnosed at government health institutions by category of disease. All data were anonymised. Permission to conduct the research was granted from China CDC and Sun Yat-sen University.”

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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