Author's response to reviews

Title: Public awareness of three major infectious diseases in rural Zhejiang province, China: a cross-section study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editorial board of BMC Infectious Disease:

We are glad to receive the comments from the two reviewers, and revise our manuscript in accordance with reviewers’ comments. Firstly, we answer the question from Mr. Xu.

1. The topic is not accurately and indirectly expressed, “Public awareness of three major infectious diseases in rural Zhejiang Province, China: a cross-section study” is like more relevant to the research?

   We agree with you, and have changed title.

2. In “Result” under “Abstract” part, “study population” should be modified into "study sample"; "revealing" into "study results showed that...."

   We have modified the inaccurate expression in “Abstract” part.

3. How do the authors define the criterion for persons with 75%~100% score were considered to have "excellent grade of response" under "METHODS" part? What are the evidences?

   Firstly, the score of three infectious diseases didn’t comply with normal distribution so that we wanted to calculate using median and quartile range. Secondly, according to the National HIV (or TB or HBV) Control Programme, the awareness rate regarding HIV, TB and HBV among rural residents have to reach 65%, 85%,80%, respectively. Therefore, to compare with and balance each other, we decide the median as the satisfactory awareness. As a result, the sketchily awareness rate of HIV, TB and HBV was 66.2%, 77.74%, 79.81%, respectively. Because we still want to compare the awareness rate in excellent grade, we regroup all the people into four groups according to quartile range, which was similar with Khanderkar’s study. (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21217897)

4. As to the "refusal" in the same part, what is estimated refusal rate?

   As the study field, every village community has to finish the investigation on about 1200 rural residents. Therefore, the total sample size was 43200, and only 39728 people were interviewed. The refusal rate was 8.03%, and most of the refusal people were seasonal workers, which is a very normal phenomenon in rural areas of China.

5. In "RESULTS" part, in order to show clear hierachy, sub-titles should be added in this part.

   We have added sub-title into the results part, making it more clearly.

6. Also in this part, there are so many inaccurate descriptions, such as "two-thirds (61.02%) realized that..... ", because two-thirds is not equal to 61.02%, so "61.02% realized that ..... “ is enough.

   We have revised the inaccurate descriptions in the text.

7. "Selection bias" is used to be instead of "selections bias" in "Limitations of the study".

   We have modified the inaccurate expression.

8. Table 7 cab be ignored.

   Table 7 has been cancelled in the text, but the description about Table7 has been kept due to its important to our findings.

9. There are some descriptions are not uniform, for example, " .... in Zhejiang Province, China" in Table 1, while in Table 2, the description is "....in a rural population in Zhejiang Province, China". The similar situation also appeared in the text, which are normalized.

   We have normalized the description not only in table title but also in the text.

Then we answer the question from Dr. Li.

1. There are too much describes in results part. Authors should describe major results or important
figures.

We have modified the results and point out main significant in our findings.

2. Writing needs to be modified.

Yes.

3. The purpose of this paper is to describe knowledge awareness of three diseases. But some questions are not about knowledge, but behavior, such as “have you ever share toothbrushes with your family?” these questions will not posed well.

We think that though this question is about the behavior of HBV prevention, it is also the part of the knowledge about HBV, which reflect the transmission of HBV. Therefore, we think this question should be pose.

We deeply appreciate your consideration of our manuscript, and we look forward to receiving your reply. If you have any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact me at the address below.

Thank you and best regards.

Yours sincerely,

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