Author's response to reviews

Title: Age, mode of conception, health service use and pregnancy health: A prospective, cohort study of Australian women

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors

Re: Age, mode of conception, health service use and pregnancy health: A prospective, cohort study of Australian women (MS: 1589971991683860)

Thank you for the careful reviews of our revised manuscript and the valuable suggestions to strengthen it. Reviewer 1, Dr Joseph was satisfied that the revised manuscript had addressed all the matters raised in her/his review. We have made the following further revisions to the paper in response to the further recommendations of Reviewer 2, Dr Klemetti:

- Report just the results in the Results section and transfer the discussion to the Discussion section (ref to private health insurance (26) and discussion about single embryo transfer practices in Australia)

  *We have removed comments about private health insurance status and single embryo transfer from the Results and placed them in the Discussion.*

- Report only results related to this paper (not those related to a previous one, mental health ref 17)

  *We have removed data that have already been reported from the Results section of the manuscript, and refer to it in the Discussion instead.*

- It would be clearer if the results of univariable and multivariable analyses (comparison of health service use by conception) were reported issue by issue and not by analysis method.

  *This change in reporting the data has been made.*

- The authors have prepared a structured discussion but the summary at the beginning of the discussion is missing.

  *A summary has been added to the beginning of the Discussion.*

- Comparison of results with previous literature is still weak, for example no references in discussion of “Health service use in pregnancy” were used.

  *We have made specific comparisons with the findings of Klemetti et al (2011) about health service use in pregnancy and have also added a reference to a health economic analysis which identified demand side factors like the ones we found to be relevant to differences in health service use by health insurance status.*