Author’s response to reviews

Title: Comparison of ankle-brachial pressure index and pulse wave velocity as markers of cognitive function in a community-dwelling population.

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

Thank you for your letter concerning the above-mentioned manuscript. I received your letter on Feb 19 and now I have the manuscript. I am pleased to note the favorable comments of referees and have made correction as follows. I hope meet with their approval.

Referee 1
Major Compulsory Revisions
1. We rewrote the purpose of this study. To determine the association of the ABI and PWV to cognitive impairment in a community-dwelling population, content of text was modified.
2. The term “independent marker” was changed to “independent risk factor”.
3. We checked the text of this paper and made level of significance consistently 5%.
4. We deleted the term “solid” in the statement.
5. About reference [4,8,9,10] [24,26 re-labeled 25,27, respectively], we studied comments by authors and have made corrections which we hope meet with referee’s approval. However, we believed that our statement on reference [12,13,14,15,16], did not have the large difference from author's statement.
   We described reference [17] and [18] oppositely, so the mistake was corrected in the revised version. As literature about MMSE, we referenced the paper [21] written by Folstein et al. This paper did not mention cut-off point, so we changed the position of the reference number in the text. In reference [25], re-labeled reference [26], authors found the difference between dementia and control in CAC and AI. But they could not find significant difference in PWV.
6. The description of the statistical analysis and details on how the distance between brachium and ankle was estimated were added.
7. The content of the abstract was modified according to referee’s suggestion.

Referee 2
DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS
- The term “caused” was changed to “had predictive value”
- The literature, Choi JC, Lee JS, Kang SY, Kang JH, Bae JM, Lee DH. Limitation of brachial-ankle pulse
wave velocity in assessing the risk of stroke: importance of instantaneous blood pressure. *Cerebrovasc Dis* 2009, 27(5):417-425, was referenced as 30

- The literature, Mickey RM: **The magnitude of the difference of crude and adjusted log odds ratios.** *Communications in Statistics - Theory and Methods* 2005, 16(11): 3403 – 3415, was referenced as 22

**MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS**

We have made corrections all requested by referee in MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS.

**MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS**

We re-analyzed data of MMSE by chi-square test, ANOVA, ANCOVA (with respect to ABI quartiles etc). To our regret, we could not find significant (p<0.05) difference of MMSE score as seen in table 1. So, we believes that Tables 1 and 2 are most convincing and appreciated presentation. But, if referee feels otherwise, we shall abide by his decision.

I would like to thank the referees for their helpful comments, and hope that the revised manuscripts is acceptable for publication in BMC psychiatry

Yours sincerely,

Norio Sugawara