Author's response to reviews

Title: Suicide and suicide attempts in people with severe mental disorders in Butajira, Ethiopia: 10 year follow-up of a population-based cohort

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Version: 4 Date: 11 April 2014

Author's response to reviews:

Editor-in-Chief
BMC Psychiatry

Dear Madam/Dear Sir,

We are very grateful for the reviews and their comments. We have revised the manuscript according to their helpful suggestions.

1. We have revised the language of the paper fully.
2. We have an additional analysis and provided an additional table (Table 5) to address the question raised by Reviewer 2.

Specific clarifications are included under the specific comments of the reviewers.

Yours sincerely,
Dr Abebaw Fekadu, on behalf of the authors

SPECIFIC RESPONSES

Reviewer 1
Minor Essential Revisions
- some spelling mistake were found. In attachment you can find the paper with the comments

AUTHORS' RESPONSE
WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE REVIEWER'S COMMENTS. W EHAVE LOOKED
THROUGH THE MANUSCRIPT AND HAVE MADE AMENDMENTS WITH REGARDS TO SPELLING AND GRAMMAR. HOWEVER, WE DID NOT FIND THE ATTACHMENT THE REVIEWER HAS REFERRED TO.

Reviewer 2

Major compulsory revisions:
1. Statistical analysis (including methods) should clearly indicate how missing data was dealt with.

AUTHORS’ RESPONSE

SINCE THE AMOUNT OF MISSING DATA WAS UNDER 2%, COMPLETE CASE ANALYSIS WAS CARRIED OUT. ALTHOUGH THE MISSING DATA FOR AGE OF ONSET OF ILLNESS WAS ABOVE 5%, THIS VARIABLE WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE REGRESSION MODELS.

2. Please clarify your statistical analysis: the data seems to "incidence" data and should be managed as such.

AUTHORS’ RESPONSE

WE HAVE NOW USED THE POISSON REGRESSION METHOD TO MODEL THE INCIDENCE OF SUICIDE ATTEMPT TAKING NUMBER OF ATTEMPTS AS AN OUTCOME AND DURATION OF FOLLOW-UP AS AN OFFSET VARIABLE. HOWEVER WE HAVE KEPT THE PREVIOUS ANALYSIS UNCHANGED BECAUSE IT ANSWERS A DIFFERENT QUESTION

Minor revisions:
3. Please check for minor grammatical errors.

AUTHORS’ RESPONSE

WE HAVE LOOKED THROUGH THE MANUSCRIPT AND HAVE MADE AMENDMENTS WITH REGARDS TO GRAMMAR.

MANY THANKS