Author’s response to reviews

Title: Psychiatric assessment of suicide attempters in Japan: a pilot study at a critical emergency unit in an urban area

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Reply to the referee (Prof. Johannes Lehtonen)

Thank you for your comments. Each comment is reasonable and agreeable, and we reply as follows;

1. According to the referee, we changed the title; we delete the word, “psychosocial”.

2. Our original presentation indicated false information. Our grammatical problems influenced on it. The suicide rate had been between 17.0 to 21.0 from 1978 to 1997. Then, the rate dramatically increased in 1998. The suicide rate was 19.3 in 1997 and 26.0 in 1998. Since 1998, the rate has been between 25.2 - 27.0. We explained it in the text precisely.

3. In terms of the low rate attendance to the emergency unit, we changed the presentation to avoid misunderstanding. Emergency system, of course, differs among countries, and there are some levels of emergency departments in area. In fact, there are four critical emergency medical centers in Yokohama City. We added the explanation.

4. We clarify the terminology, “suicide attempters” and “completers”. And we changed the presentation in the section of methods.

5. Our English text was checked again by another native speaker of English. We corrected mistakes in our text.