Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Incidence of Self-Reported Brain Injury and the Relationship with Substance Abuse: Findings from a Longitudinal Community Survey

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Dear Editor

Please find attached a revised manuscript for consideration by BMC Public Health. We have made the change suggested by the reviewer – see below for details.

Yours sincerely

Robert Tait
Reviewer Keith Yeates

The question used to exclude participants based on a previous TBI could have allowed some individuals with mild TBI resulting in a LOC < 15 minutes to be included in the study. In other words, some of the participants may have had a previous mild TBI

The following sentence has been added to the limitations section of the discussion. “A further potential influence of the change in wording is that there may be some people who at wave one had an injury that resulted in a LOC of less than 15 minutes but who were admitted to hospital for their injury, and should not be in the denominator for incident cases.”