Author's response to reviews

Title: Population Attributable Fraction of Smoking and Metabolic Syndrome on Cardiovascular Disease Mortality in Japan: a 15-Year Follow Up of NIPPON DATA90.

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To the Editor:

We have again revised the manuscript according to the reviewers’ comments. We have also checked the manuscript to conform to the manuscript formatting checklist. Points of the revisions and responses to the reviewers’ suggestions are summarized as follows:

**Response to the reviewer #1:**

The authors in their revised manuscript have addressed almost all the issues that I had raised in the previous version.

We thank the reviewer for his/her positive evaluation of our work.

For the discussion on the results in Table 5 (Table 4 in the former version), we would like to focus on the attribution of the combination of smoking and metabolic risk factors to avoid readers’ confusion. We have made a little change in this part (page 12, second paragraph).

**Response to the reviewer #2:**

Thank you, for Table A (Adjusted HR for 1 standard deviation increasing in the continuous variables and sex, smoking and drinking habits for mortality from cardiovascular diseases.). This table is highly informative. The authors really need to include the excellent Table A in the paper. It will obviously require a sentence or two in the Methods, and Results, and Discussion.

We thank the reviewer for his/her positive evaluation of our work. We have included this Table A as “Table 2” in the revised version. We have added statements on the results of new Table 2 in the Methods (page 8, 3rd paragraph), the Results (page 9, 3rd paragraph) and the Discussion (page 12, second paragraph).