Author’s response to reviews

Title: Relationship between tooth loss and mortality in 80-year-old Japanese community-dwelling subjects

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Ms. Nina Titmus
The BioMed Central Editorial Team

Dear Ms. Titmus,

Thank you very much for your reply as well as providing the comments from the Reviewer concerning our manuscript (MS: 8284165272983197). After reviewing those carefully, we made several changes to the text and believe that our study has been greatly improved. We trust that this revised version is now acceptable for publication in *BMC Public Health*.

Changes in the revised manuscript are highlighted in yellow. In addition, our responses to the reviewer are shown following. We sincerely thank the reviewer for the valuable insights and you for your interest in our work.

Yours sincerely,

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Following are our replies to the comments of the Reviewer:

Referee 1:
Major points:
1. Tables 1 and 2: The tables should be remade again.
   According to the comments, the percentages presented have been changed to the percentage for the particular group that died.
2. The interactions have still not been included.
   We conducted the interaction tests between tooth loss, and sex and smoking status, as described in
the statistical analyses in the Methods section. In the Results section on page 9, we now note that a significant association was found only between tooth loss and sex. Thus, Tables 3 and 4 were remade. Also, the corresponding description regarding smoking status and tooth loss in the Discussion section has been rewritten. The sentences regarding the difference between 4 and 5.5 years have been deleted.

Minor points:
1. The incorrect sentence has been changed.
   We have reworded the sentence (page 9, lines 7 to 9) to make the description more clear.