Author's response to reviews

Title: Factors associated with dental caries among institutionalized residents with schizophrenia in Taiwan: a cross-sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Prof. Titmus,

Thanks for your letter with the important message. We appreciate the reviews for sound comments and suggestions. We have substantially revised the manuscript "Factors associated with dental caries among institutionalized residents with schizophrenia in Taiwan- a cross-sectional study" (MS: 8899253593491398) as requested. The important issues pointed by Prof. Hausen have been clarified and corrected. This revised manuscript had been check by the International Science Editing (www.biomedes.co.uk). All the changes of this manuscript are highlighted with red. We hope the correction of the revision will meet the requirements of BMC Public Health.

Sincerely Yours,

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**Response to Dr. Tsakos:**

We would like to appreciate reviewer’s previous comment and the suggestion for the manuscript for publication.

**Response to Prof. Hausen:**

Thanks for the your elaborate comment. We have corrected the terms of (1) “potential” and (2) “criteria of dental caries index”.

(1) “… after making adjustments for other potential explanatory variables. “ (p. 2, paragraph 1)

“ To focus on the patients with schizophrenic disorder and adjust for explanatory confounders, … “(p. 4, paragraph 1)

“Chi-square test was used to examine the explanatory factors for the outcome variables, specifically, DMFT>8, CI<54.7%, and NRT<24. … The explanatory variables with a cut-off of p<0.1 from univariate analyses were used and included into the multi-variable logistic models.” (p. 7, paragraph 2)

“Age was independently associated with DMFT>8 after an adjustment for other potential explanatory variables. ” (p. 9, paragraph 1)

“Second, some other possible confounders, e.g. general health condition, smoking habits, and body weight of the subjects, were not considered due to insufficient information [25-27].” (p. 13, paragraph 1)

“One of the individual factors examined, i.e. older age, had an independent effect on the
risk of high DMFT score after adjusting for other potential explanatory factors.” (p. 13, paragraph 2)

(2) “Based on this data, multiple logistic analyses were used to determine the relationship between some explanatory variables and the outcome variables of dental caries among subjects with schizophrenia.” (p. 1, paragraph 2)

“The dependent variables of this investigation were the categorical outcome variables of dental caries.” (p. 5, paragraph 3)

“The categorical outcome variables of dental caries were then set to: DMFT>8, CI<54.7%, and NRT<24.” (p. 6, paragraph 1)

“Table 1: Distribution and univariate analysis between explanatory variables and categorical outcome variables of dental caries among institutionalized subjects with schizophrenia.” (p. 20, the title of Table 1)

“Table 2: Multivariate analyses between the potential explanatory variables and categorical outcome variables of dental caries among institutionalized subjects with schizophrenia.” (p. 21, the title of Table 2)