Author's response to reviews

Title: Pattern of fractures across pediatric age groups: Analysis of individual and lifestyle factors

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sirs,

We thank the reviewers for this further revision improving the text. Here is the list of the answers to the points that have been addressed:

**Editor:** the name of the Hospital providing the ethical approval was added.

**Reviewer:** Georg Singer

1) There is no information in the abstract that the study included patients from a 6 months period. 
   *This information was added.*

2) Second to last sentence in the results section of the abstract: Confusing, i would think that 23% of the patients sustained more than one fracture at the same time.
   *The sentence was rephrased by adding “in the past”.*

3) Third sentence, first Paragraph of the results section: I think it were 76 pre school children (at least the table shows this and otherwise the total number of patients would be 383).
   *The number was corrected in the text, thank you.*

4) Page 8: There is no Figure 3. I think that the authors refer to Figure 1.
   *Yes, it was corrected.*

5) Page 14: These findings are not surprising and reflect (not reflects) the amount of time spent (not spend)..... and "No one was suspected to be victim (not victims). Please change.
   *Words have been changed.*

**Reviewer:** Frank Hildebrand

Please provide a table for the exclusion and inclusion criteria.
*Table provided.*

The site of injury is not sufficiently described. Please provide a table concerning the different types of fracture (e.g. forearm, closed; elbow, supradiacondylar) and the respective differences.
*A table was added indicating the distribution of fractures among the different sites.*

Please shorten the summary at the beginning of the discussion part.
*It was done and the sentence regarding the age below 2 years as exclusion criterion was moved to the Methods section.*
- Discretionary Revisions
The authors report about correlations of parents’ educational level within the discussion part. Please lengthen this part, since this topic deals with a very important topic.

Provided that the reviewer considered this point as discretionary revision, and that we did not find any difference in the educational level among the three age classes, we prefer not to further extend this issue.

We hope that this last version will be suitable for publication.

Thank you for your kind attention

Sincerely

Prof. Giorgio Liguori and co-authors