Author's response to reviews

Title: Maternal age and Infant Mortality in two Sicilian districts: a retrospective follow up study.

Authors:

Walter Mazzucco (waltermazzucco@unipa.it)
Rosanna Cusimano (rosanna.cusimano@libero.it)
Maurizio Macaluso (macaluso@comcast.net)
Claudio La Scola (clasc@libero.it)
Giovanna Fiumanò (achille.cernigliaro@regione.sicilia.it)
Salvatore Scondotto (salvatore.scondotto@regione.sicilia.it)
Achille Cernigliaro (achille_c@libero.it)
Giovanni Corsello (giocors@alice.it)
Giuseppe La Torre (giuseppe.latorre@rm.unicatt.it)
Francesco Vitale (francesco.vitale@unipa.it)

Version: 4 Date: 29 July 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
To Journal Editor
BMC Public Health

In agreement with the co-authors, we have revised the manuscript according to Your suggestions. We hope that this revision meets with your final approval, and that the manuscript is now suitable for publication in “BMC Public Health”. Below we have provided the additional information required together with the comment.

Best regards,

Walter Mazzucco

Please document within your manuscript if the data you have used is openly available. If it is not openly available, please document the name of the ethics committee which approved its use.

The study does not meet the definition of “research on human subjects” and review by an ethics committee was not required. We have provided additional information about data availability and we have modified the text as required (Methods section, third paragraph): “This study employed in part vital statistics that are publicly available, and in part information pertaining to deceased individuals that was collected through hospital chart reviews.”