Author's response to reviews

Title: Socioeconomic status, urbanization and risk behaviours in Mexican youth: an analysis of 3 cross-sectional surveys

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editorial board:

Enclosed please find the paper: “Socioeconomic status, urbanization and risk behaviours in Mexican youth: an analysis of 3 cross-sectional surveys” which we wish to submit for review by BMC Public Health. This article is innovative for several reasons. Although other reports have looked at the effects of urbanization over health, few have looked at its effects over adolescents’ risks behaviours in Mexico. In addition, even though evidence exploring the role of socioeconomic status on risk behaviours has been widely documented, previous studies may have unnoticed the potential interaction between socioeconomic status and urbanization level, and its moderating effects on adolescents’ risk behaviours. To our knowledge this is the first study from Mexico focusing on locality size (as an indicator of urbanization degree), and its possible interaction with socioeconomic status to explore social determinants of health risk behaviours in young.

For this study, we analyzed information from 17,974 Mexican adolescents, using existing data bases that are part of the evaluation of the national poverty alleviation program Oportunidades, a conditional cash transfer program in Mexico. A detailed description of the design and administration of the surveys can be found in the publications list at the end of this letter.

The authors of this paper, Juan Pablo Gutiérrez and Erika E. Atienzo, certify that the data used in the analysis is original. The content has not been published, nor is it being considered elsewhere and it does not duplicate other published work. We also want to state that both of the authors are aware that it is being submitted to the BMC Public Health. Ethical approval for this study was obtained from the Mexican National Institute of Public Health ethics and research committees.
Please address all correspondence relating to this paper to me by e-mail or to the address shown below. Thank you for considering this manuscript.

We look forward to hearing from you soon,

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**References:**

