Author's response to reviews

Title: Neglected increases in rural road traffic mortality in China: findings based on health data from 2005 to 2010

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

My colleagues and I have revised the manuscript as required. We wish it could well address the reviewers' concerns. Please see the reply to reviewers' comments below.

Yours truly,

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Reviewer's report

Title: Neglected increases in rural road traffic mortality in China: findings based
on health data from 2005 to 2010

Version: 2 Date: 19 September 2013

Reviewer: Jagnoor Jagnoor

Reviewer's report:

My concern is not the methods or validity of the results. I am not sure that the results presented in this report warrant a publication as a brief report. I am generally satisfied with the response of the authors. I can understand that authors could have their limitations in accessing, analysing data and presenting detailed results; but then perhaps this is more suitable as a letter rather than a brief report. This is at discretion of the handling editor. The report is scientifically sound.

Reply: Thanks. The type of publication completely depends on the decision of editor. We accept the choice of editor whether it is published as research letter or brief report.

Editor's comment:

"The re-reviews were generally positive but Dr. Masoumi would like you to acknowledge that the data is a 10% sample. Please consider making the following recommended edits in the Abstract to meet this concern:

1. In the abstract: 'Mortality rates came from the publicly available health data of the Ministry of Health-Vital Registration System which captures 10% of the total population including 41 urban centers (15 large cities and 21 middle/small cities) and 85 rural centers.'"

Reply: Thanks for important suggestion. We rewrote this sentence as the reviewer suggest. Please see below.

‘Mortality rates came from the publicly available health data of the Ministry of Health-Vital Registration System that is based on a national representative sample (about 10% of total population), including 41 surveillance points in urban areas (15 large cities and 21 middle/small cities) and 85 surveillance points in rural areas.’