Author's response to reviews

Title: Is central obesity associated with poorer health and health related quality of life in primary school children? Cross-sectional results from the Baden-Wuerttemberg Study

Authors:

Dorothea Keszyues (dorothea.kesztyues@uni-ulm.de)
Tamara Wirt (tamara.wirt@uniklinik-ulm.de)
Susanne Kobel (susanne.kobel@uni-ulm.de)
Anja Schreiber (anja.schreiber@uni-ulm.de)
Sarah Kettner (sarah.kettner@uniklinik-ulm.de)
Clemens Drenowatz (clemens.drenowatz@uniklinik-ulm.de)
Jens Dreyhaupt (jens.dreyhaupt@uni-ulm.de)
Reinhold Kilian (reinhold.kilian@bkh-guenzburg.de)
Jürgen M Steinacker (juergen.steinacker@uni-ulm.de)

Version: 11 Date: 1 March 2013

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

Thank you for your friendly comments and advice. We decided to send the manuscript to Edanz Group Ltd. to have it reviewed on a professional level.

Your manuscript has now re-assessed by the Associate Editor and have provided further comments on this submission as below:

".....the English is at times rather atrocious. Sentences like "Based on the positive results of the URMEL-ICE study as regards a reduced increase in waist circumference and a favorable cost-effectiveness [29, 30], a health-promotion program for primary schools in the state of Baden-Württemberg (South-Western Germany) was developed at Ulm University which has been implemented since 2009." do not make for easy reading. And a statement with double negatives like "Age (p < 0.001), physical activity (p = 0.001), tertiary family education level (p = 0.001), and high level of maternal health consciousness (p = 0.049) were inversely associated with a higher level of child absenteeism." is also worthy of language editing. If possible medical editing, to avoid "randomized, controlled prospective trial[s]". (Retrospective trials are simply not done, and with reason.)

I suggest that before we can accept this paper, the writing should be reviewed by a professional editor."
Changes made in the manuscript (examples):

Methods – "Komm mit in das gesunde Boot - Grundschule" (Join the Healthy Boat - Primary School) – paragraph 1, page 4

Based on the positive results of the URMEL-ICE study regarding a reduction in the increase in waist circumference and favorable cost-effectiveness [29, 30], a health-promotion program for primary schools in the state of Baden-Württemberg (South-Western Germany) was developed at Ulm University and has been implemented from 2009.

Results – Odds Ratios from Stepwise Logistic Regression Analysis of Higher Level of Child Absenteeism – page 9

Age (p < 0.001), physical activity (p = 0.001), tertiary family education level (p = 0.001), and high level of maternal health awareness (p = 0.049) were associated with a lower level of child absenteeism.

We hope that the editorial board will agree with the professionally edited version of the manuscript.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothea Kesztyüs on behalf of the authors.