Author's response to reviews

Title: Firm downsizing and diagnosis-specific disability pensioning in Norway

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To the Editor,

BMC Public Health

Many thanks for this chance to re-submit the article, and for two good reviews! Here we comment on them point by point.

Reviewer 1

1. Our study differs from that of Rege et al by having a medical view of disability pensions and firm downsizing, especially by analysing the diagnoses. Therefore, we wish to have this "broad view" on the issue, even when the article turns out to be long and heavy, "overwhelming" as the referee finds it.

2. "Firm" is defined by Statistics Norway by a formal registration number which are different for different branches of private companies and public employees. Thus, "firm" is most equal to workplace, and this is stated shortly at page 4 para 4.

3. ORs for the confounders should be skipped in the tables making them less overwhelming. We propose to keep them, and have commented some of them in the text (page 10 para 1, 2 and 3).

4. Measures of variance, intraclass correlation and R2 should be excluded or explained better. We propose to keep these concepts but have explained them shortly in the text (page 9 para 1).

5. We commented on the gender difference on page 10 para 3, and we think that is appropriate.

6. Possible implications of the study are already stated on page 15 para 2, and we have added more on page 16 para 1.

Reviewer 2

1. Some lack a diagnosis. We have explained that on page 6 para 1.
2. Norwegian references are translated on pages 16 and 17).
3. Annual income is stated in Table 1 on page 18

Best regards,
Bjorgulf Claussen