Author's response to reviews

Title: Association between socioeconomic status and obesity in a Chinese adult population

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

We have responded positively to all the comments, and hope that the revised manuscript now meet with your approval. Detailed responses follow:

REVIEWER 1:

• The authors have adequately addressed all reviewer comments. However minor English editing in required.

Response: Thank you! We have carefully gone through the whole MS multiple times, and have further edited some improper words or expressions.

REVIEWER 2:

• Minor essential revisions : Line 324-326 : the sentence seems incorrect.

Response: Thank you! We have RE-WRITTEN this sentence in revised MS. Please see in line 325-327.

EDITOR:

• The authors have addressed the reviewers’ comments well. The sole outstanding issue is the first point made by reviewer 1-that of adjusting for behavioural variables in the estimation of the association between SEP and obesity. Can I recommend that two models are performed, one adjusting for all the variables presently adjusted for but not alcohol intake, physical activity, total fat intake, total meat intake, fruits and vegetables; and a second model adjusting for all the variables. Then the authors can
conclude on the likely overall association as well as the direct association not including through diet and activity.

Response: Thank you! We agree that a two-step strategy in model fitting process can be a feasible way to illustrate the possible intermediate role of lifestyle factors in the association between SES and obesity. So we RE-FITTED logistic regression models based on the editor’s comment, and revised corresponding parts of our MS. Major revisions include: line 164-170, line 216-218, line 228-230, line 292-299, table 3 and table 4. Besides, we also deleted line 289-294, line 316-321 in previous MS.

• In addition, can the authors please go through the manuscript and tone down some of the non-scientific language (eg rampant, wildly).

Response: Thank you! We have carefully gone through the whole MS multiple times, and corrected some non-scientific expressions.