Author's response to reviews

Title: Rationale, design and methods for a community-based study of clustering and interactions of chronic disease processes and their effects on ageing: The Busselton Healthy Ageing Study

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Dear Editor,

We submit our revised manuscript titled, Rationale, design and methods for a community-based study of clustering and interactions of chronic disease processes and their effects on ageing: The Busselton Healthy Ageing Study for publication.

The only change to the original manuscript is the addition of the Competing Interests Statement: 'The authors declare that they have no competing interests'.

The protocol was assessed by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Project Grant review process (2010) and received a rating of 4/7 ("Good") which is in the fundable range but was below the cut-off for available funds. Attached are:

1. Our submitted Application:
2. The response letter from the NHMRC;
3. The NHMRC Descriptor Category table.
Yours Sincerely

Alan James
Chairman, Steering Committee
Busselton Healthy Ageing Study.