Author's response to reviews

Title: Area deprivation and the prevalence of type 2 diabetes and obesity. Analysis at the municipality level in Germany

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Version: 2 Date: 27 August 2014

Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editors,

according to your e-mail from August 26, 2014, we have inserted an ethics and consent statement in the methods section with the following text:

Ethics and consent statement

An ethics approval for this retrospective study was not mandatory as no medical research involving human subjects was conducted. The participation in the TNS Health Care Access Panel (HCAP) was fully voluntary and no costs arose for the participants. Data were obtained through a self-administered survey and the participants received written information on the subsequent use of the data for research purpose (commercial and non-commercial) together with the mailed questionnaires.

We added also a very recent paper using the HCAP data (currently in press) to the references.

We hope that this information meet the requirements. If there are any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,
Werner Maier