Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Development and validation of a tool to assess the physical and social environment associated with physical activity among adults in Sri Lanka.

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
12th January 2014,

Editor in Chief
BMC Public Health

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: SUBMISSION OF A PAPER TITLED “DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF A TOOL TO ASSESS THE PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATED WITH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AMONG ADULTS IN SRI LANKA”

The paper describes development and validation of an instrument to assess the physical and social environment associated with physical activity in Sri Lanka. It is based on a new scientific approach of defining the construct, item generation, analysis of content of items and item reduction described by Redding and colleagues. The development process involved including communities and both the qualitative and quantitative approach.

The instrument encompasses items relevant to the developing countries. This instrument will help measure the environment that will help understand the physical activity behavior in terms of the environment both in an individual and in populations. This tool will contribute to the field of knowledge ‘instrument development and validation’ and to the ‘pool of tools to measure environment associated with physical activity’.

This journal was selected due to high accessibility and as it considered articles on predictors of behavior and measurement issues.

I declare no competing interest. The research was funded by the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka. This research was done as a part of the Doctorate of Community Medicine in Sri Lanka by me. I hope to publish the results of the study which assessed the physical activity of Adults and its associating with the physical and social environment in due course.

I would be extremely grateful if you could grant me a waiver for the article processing charge as I am from a developing country and have no budgetary allowance for publishing of articles.

The revisions made
- Incorporated the reference number of ethical approval from Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo.
- Statement on informed written consent was made

I would be extremely grateful if you could accept this paper so that it can contribute to the work carried out on physical activity and environment.

Thank you
Yours sincerely
Dr. A.A.S.H. De Silva Welianne
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Department of Community Medicine,
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