Author's response to reviews

Title: Low birth weight and environmental tobacco smoke increases the risk of wheezing in adolescents: a retrospective cohort study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Re: MS: 3608331912370818, Low birth weight, environmental tobacco smoke and the risk of wheezing in adolescents: a retrospective cohort study

[Re-titled to: Low birth weight and environmental tobacco smoke increases the risk of wheezing in adolescents: a retrospective cohort study]

Dear Professor Sole,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the reviewers’ comments on our manuscript (MS: 3608331912370818) re-entitled “Low birth weight and environmental tobacco smoke increases the risk of wheezing in adolescents: a retrospective cohort study.” Please find attached the revised and marked version of manuscripts and the point-by-point response to the reviewer’s comments. We hope that these revisions have addressed the comments of the reviewers but if they fail to do so, please do not hesitate to contact us for further clarifications. Please thank everyone for their thoughtful suggestions and critical reviews.

Sincerely Yours,

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Referee #1 (Dr. Herberto Jose J. Chong Neto):

Minor essential revisions
Abstract: Ok
Introduction: Ok
Methods: As a reader, I would like to know if ETS during pregnancy may be influenced or related to LBW, preterm delivery and wheezing too. Are there some question or investigation in this field?
Results: Is ETS during pregnancy influenced in results?
Discussion: ok

Response:
Thanks for Dr. Herberto Jose J. Chong Neto’s comment. We did not collect specified EST during in utero. Nevertheless, we added this point to the discussion including limitation (Page 10, Line 218-220) and the potential effects of maternal smoking during pregnancy on health outcomes (Page 10, Lines 211-214).

Referee #2 (Dr. Jose Rizzo):

Discretionary Revisions:
Put the title in an assertive sentence, such: "Low birth weight and environmental tobacco smoke increases the risk of wheezing in adolescents: a retrospective cohort study"

Response:
Thanks for Dr. Jose Rizzo’s comment. As suggested by the referrer, we replaced the original title with a new title in an assertive manner:

Original title:
Low birth weight, environmental tobacco smoke and the risk of wheezing in adolescents: a retrospective cohort study
New title:
Low birth weight and environmental tobacco smoke increases the risk of wheezing in adolescents: a retrospective cohort study (Page 1, Lines 1-2).

Major Compulsory Revision:
Report numerically the results of the primary variable - combined association of LBW and ETS with wheezing. There is a numerical report only for LBW.

Also in the abstract report the number of individuals that were effectively included on the cohort along with the total number.

Response:
1. Thanks for Dr. Jose Rizzo’s comment. We revised and reported numerically the results of the primary variable – combined association of LBW and ETS with wheezing (Page 7, Lines 151 ~ Page 8, Lines 154).
2. Thanks for Dr. Jose Rizzo’s comment. We revised and reported the number of individuals in the abstract that were effectively included on the cohort along with the total number (Page 3, Line 45).