Author's response to reviews

Title: Psychological distress among Bam earthquake survivors in Iran: a population-based study

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Author's response to reviews:

Dears in The BioMed Central Editorial Team,

Re: ‘Psychological distress among Bam earthquake survivors in Iran: a population-based study’

Thank you for your e-mail of 29 November. Please find the following point-by-point responses to the reviewer's comments:

Method Section

1. a. The reason for the population increase was indicated.
2. b. Page 4, first line: "At this time" was changed to "At the time of the screening".
3. c. Page 4, second line: nearby was changed to inside.
4. d. Few sentences were added to the method section at the end of first paragraph to indicate: source of information, number of households, number of targeted households, success rate, the reason for failed contact, and the issue of replacement.
5. A. Page 4, line 8: "For the study purpose" was replaced with "For the purposes of the study"
6. A. Page, line 13: " A team of trained interviewers" was moved to a new paragraph.
7. A. Page 4, line16-17: "Since there was no a validated measure of PTSD " was corrected as recommended.
8. A. Page page4, line 19: "The scale asks" was changed to "The scale examines".
9. A. Page 4, line 21: "GHQ-12 is a brief" was replaced with "GHQ-12 is brief".
10. A. Page 5, line 2: was corrected as recommended.

Results

1. The word "Camps" was changed to tents.
2. Second paragraph: "To find out differences" was changed to "To examine differences" and "the Student's test and the one-way analysis " was changed to "Student's test and one-way analysis ".

Discussion

1. The second part of the first sentence was omitted.
2. In the Second sentence "The Severe psychological morbidity" was replaced with "Psychological morbidity"
3. In page 6, 5th line and page 7, 3rd line the word "relates" was changed to "relate".
4. Page 8, second paragraph, the sentence "This has consistently " was omitted.
5. Page 9, the first paragraph: "Since the Bam earthquake " was omitted as recommended.
6. Page 9, second paragraph: the beginning sentence of the paragraph was changed and after describing the limitations and before making recommendation two sentences were added as recommended.
7. Page 9 the sentence "Thus, since depression is " was changed to "Thus, since depression is also common " as recommended.
8. Page 9: the sentence "Secondly, the study was not measured " was changed to "Secondly, no information was obtained ".

Hope you find the correction satisfactory.
Wish you all the best.
Yours sincerely
Ali Montazeri