Author's response to reviews

Title: Periodontal disease and atherosclerosis from the viewpoint of the relationship between Community Periodontal Index of Treatment Needs and Brachial-Ankle Pulse Wave Velocity.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors,

Thank you for reading through our manuscript after revision. We are pleased that the reviewer expressed interest in our manuscript.

Concerning the comments the reviewer pointed out, we answered one by one and made some changes. The list of items that we revised is written in the next page.

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Sincerely yours,

Takeo Nakayama
<Reviewer's comment>

The last paragraph of the discussion is inappropriate and needs to be deleted. This study does not at all indicate or support the existence of a threshold. The study does refute the that mild periodontitis or gingivitis is associated with CVD.

The authors should conclude that in agreement with other studies gingivitis and mild periodontitis is not associated with CVD.

<Our correspondence>

We delete the last paragraph of the discussion threshold and added some references. Please refer to line 2·13 of page 11.

Reference #[34] is the new review of this topic. And reference #[35-39] are the studies that refute the mild periodontitis or gingivitis is associated with CHD.

We also added the discussion of smoking dose because the appropriate adjustment for smoking is very important. Please refer to line 3·9 of page 12.

The lack of appropriate control for smoking history is a plausible explanation for the studies that reported strong CP-CHD associations. In our study, we evaluated pack-year as an integrated smoking dose. After the appropriate adjustment including smoking intensity, we conclude that mild periodontal disease is not associated with atherosclerosis in agreement with other studies.