Author’s response to reviews

Title: Overweight, physical activity, tobacco and alcohol consumption in a cross-sectional random sample of German adults

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Sir or Madame,

we have once again tried to incorporate the reviewer’s comments into the manuscript text. The reviewer argues that because of a generalization of results acquired in our population sample he has to insist on reporting measures of sampling errors (CI or SE). We think however (and the other two reviewers obviously agree in this matter) that the manuscript text is limited to the description of our population sample and is not drawing direct conclusions on the whole population. Therefore measures of sampling error are not required for the prevalence values (as they are not estimates).

To clarify this controversial issue we have included a more precise definition of the study objectives in the manuscript text according to the reviewers recommendations. The background section as well as the results section have been altered accordingly.

We also went once again through the manuscript formatting checklist. In our opinion the manuscript conforms to all of the points. We encountered a slight discrepancy between the text of the formatting checklist and the downloadable Microsoft Word template: The formatting of the references differs slightly. We choose the format supplied in the text and therefore had to ignore the templates style.

With best wishes,

Wolfgang Kratzer