Author's response to reviews

Title: Life time suicidal thoughts in an urban community in Hanoi, Vietnam

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear the Editor,

Thank you for comments on the article on "Life time suicidal thoughts in an urban community in Hanoi, Vietnam"

I would like to respond revisions as following:

Concerning to comments from reviewer Jukka Hintikka

Minor Compulsory Revision

Thank you for concrete comments. All comments from the reviewer now are corrected and revised in the new version.

Concerning to comments from reviewer Oivind Ekeberg

Minor Essential Revisions

Point 4. Records concerning to 200 persons were selected for reliability test. We changed the sentence "The test and retest data indicated that the responses in the interviews were the same" by the sentence "All the variables were tested and results were the same.

Point 5. The reviewer is right. Answers given face-to-face might differ from data given in a totally anonymous situation. This issue now is presented in the part of "Discussion"

Point 6. "variable selection in the multivariate model was based on previous studies". We tested variables in different multivariate models and selected the best fit ones. We excluded anxiety and depression as predictors in a multivariate model of suicidal feelings because these variables can be intermediate factors which lead suicidal thoughts and when we put it in multivariate model, the model is poorly fitted.

Point 7. The general characteristics of study material is informed in the part on "Data collection" of the part on "Material and method"

Point 8. We added in the present version of the manuscript the question concerning assessment of habit for using alcohol, sedatives and pain relief medication.

Point 9. The proportions of subjects who had ever used alcohol, sedatives and analgesics are described in the part "General characteristics". The reviewer is right when realised that more than 90% of the Vietnamese at urban population never used pain relief medication. We discussed this issue in the part "Suicidal thoughts and mental problems, use of alcohol, sedatives and pain relief medication".