Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of overweight and obesity on the island of Ireland: Results from the North South Survey of Children's Height, Weight and Body Mass Index, 2002

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To whom it may concern,

The following amendments were made to the manuscript entitled "Prevalence of overweight and obesity on the island of Ireland: Results from the North South Survey of Children's Height, Weight and Body Mass Index, 2002"

Abstract:
Background:
The opening sentence was changed to: "Childhood obesity is emerging as a major public health problem in developed and developing countries worldwide"

Methods:
The opening sentence was changed to "The heights and weights of 19,617 school-going children and adolescents aged between 4 and 16 years...."

In the final sentence the following phrase was removed: "and whether they attended a school with fluoridated or non-fluoridated water supply".

The following sentence was included: "Overweight and obesity were classified according to standard IOTF criteria."

Conclusions:
The conclusion was re-worded to read:
"These figures confirm the emergence of the obesity epidemic among children in Ireland, a wealthy country with the European Union. The results serve to underpin the urgency of implementing broad intersectoral measures to reduce calorie intake and increase levels of physical activity, particularly among children."

Main Paper:
No changes

Tables:
The wording in Table 1 was changed to standardise the 'class names' in RoI with those in NI. RoI class names now read as:
Primary Year 1
Primary Year 4
Primary Year 6
Second Level Year 3

Additional files:
No change
Yours Sincerely,

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