**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** All-cause mortality and risk factors in a military retired men cohort, Xian, China: an 18-year follow up study

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Dear Editor:

Please consider the enclosed manuscript "All-cause mortality and risk factors in a military retired men cohort, Xian, China: an 18-year follow up study" for publication in BMC Public Health. To our knowledge, this is the first military cohort study on all-cause mortality and risk factors in China. It showed that smoking, high systolic blood pressure, high triglyceride, family history of cancer, hypertension and stroke, existing stroke, diabetes and cancer, underweight, younger age of smoking were risk factors of all-cause death. Smoking is common in Chinese Elderly and it significantly increased risk of death. We believe that this study has important public health and clinical implications.

We were not any prior or duplicate publication or submission elsewhere of any part of the work, and any financial or other relationships that might lead to competing interests. The manuscript has been read and approved by all the authors.

We like to recommend the following persons as references for peer review of this paper:

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Thank you for your consideration.

Your regards,

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