Author's response to reviews

Title: Chinese version of the Global Youth Tobacco Survey: Cross-cultural instrument adaptation

Authors:

Ping-Ling Chen (plchen@tmu.edu.tw)
Hung-Yi Chiou (hychiou@tmu.ed.tw)
Yi-Hua Chen (yichen@tmu.edu.tw)

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Response to Reviewers’ Comments

This response letter refers to our revised manuscript (1492635061163476), “Chinese version of the Global Youth Tobacco Survey: Cross-cultural instrument adaptation.”

Dear Andrea:

Thank you for clarifying the issue of responding to Referee 2. After careful consideration of Dr. Wen's comments, I think that he may have too literally interpreted our use of the phrase “cross-cultural adaptation” in the title. That phrase is taken from Guillemin et al. (1993) to describe the process of modifying an instrument previously validated in another language. The cultural aspects of this process refer largely to language-specific issues (semantic, idiomatic, experiential, and conceptual) that arise during translation. Our study was not designed to probe deeply into smoking-specific cultural issues, but to develop an instrument that can be used to assess smoking behaviors and attitudes of Chinese youth.

On the other hand, our previous response letter outlined our consideration of all the points raised by Dr. Wen. The Methods (Stage 3: Focus group, p. 7) clarifies our methods for addressing smoking-specific cultural issues, the Results (pp. 9-10) specify the culture-specific changes made in the GYTS in response to expert and focus group feedback, and the conclusion (p. 14) notes that the Chinese version GYTS can serve as reference for developing youth tobacco surveillance programs in other Chinese communities.

Thus, we have opted not to address these points further in the limitations. In response to Dr. Kegler, we have revised the manuscript to eliminate the inconsistencies on page 6 and page 7 (see attached manuscript).

Thanks for your attention and prompt response.

Best wishes,

Ping-Ling Chen