Author's response to reviews

Title: Long-term exposure to air pollution and ischemic stroke risk: a register-based case-control study in Southern Sweden

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Dear Editors,

My colleagues and I wish to submit a manuscript for consideration of publication in BMC Public Health. The title of the manuscript is: "Long-term exposure to air pollution and ischemic stroke risk: a register-based case-control study in Southern Sweden".

We consider this paper to be of importance since previous studies on long-term effects of air pollution on stroke risk are scarce. Short-term effects of air pollution have been more frequently described, even in low-level areas, such as in our study area in Southern Sweden.

We think that our study provides an important contribution to increase the knowledge about ischemic stroke risk and air pollution in low-level areas. We consider the lack of association observed in our study to be rather strong evidence because it includes the whole population, have a high quality case ascertainment and exposure to air pollution is modelled individually.

Thank you for considering our manuscript,

Sincerely,

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