Author's response to reviews

Title: Risk factors for operated carpal tunnel syndrome: a multicenter population-based case-control study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
7 September 2009

Dear Dr Titmus,

MS: 1853933867235803
Risk factors for operated carpal tunnel syndrome: a multicenter population-based case-control study (Mattioli et al)

Thank you for reviewing our resubmission. Please find attached our final revision based on your formatting requirements.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours

Gianpiero Mancini, MD

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Formatting changes requested

Major revisions

Affiliations - Each affiliation should be written in full, in the following format: department, institute, city, and country. This may mean repeating institutional addresses if the authors are from different departments within an institution.
Previously, we had not always specified the city (when it corresponded to the name of the University). We have now specified the city separately in each affiliation. All affiliations now seem to us to correspond to the examples provided in the journal template.

Table 1 too long - This table currently runs over multiple pages. We would prefer tables to fit onto a single A4 portrait page. If this is not possible please can you resubmit the tables as additional files, remembering to then remove the tables from the manuscript file. Please remember to then renumber any remaining tables accordingly, and to alter the references to the tables within the text.
We have now fitted Table 1 onto a single portrait page. To do this, we have had to reduce the font size and spacing. We hope this format is acceptable.

Table size - These must fit into an A4 portrait page. If you cannot re-orientate the table onto a single A4 portrait page (maximum size 176mm x 230mm), please move it to the additional files. Tables in the additional files will be made available with the final manuscript upon publication but will not be included in the manuscript in situ. Please ensure that you update the text to cite additional files and include a legend in the additional files section.
We have now fitted all Tables onto single portrait pages. To do this, we have had to restructure Tables 2 and 3 (tabulating information vertically rather than horizontally) and reduce font size and spacing.

We have also checked all the requested Minor revisions.