Author's response to reviews

Title: RiskDiff: a web tool for the analysis of the difference due to risk and demographic factors for incidence or mortality data

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Hans Zauner
Scientific editor

BioMed Central Editorial Team

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find a re-submission of our manuscript by Valls et al. entitled **Riskdiff: a web tool for the analysis of the difference due to risk and demographic factors for incidence or mortality data** which we submitted to BMC Public Health (MS: 8221383122906957). Following the recommendations given by both reviewers, the English of the manuscript has extensively been revised by a native speaker and also the wording in the web interface. Point by point answers to reviewers’ comments are given below.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of our manuscript. Please do not hesitate to contact us on any matter that may arise.

Yours sincerely,

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Answers to reviewers’ comments

Reviewer #1 (Pierre Goovaerts)
Point 1. Clarifying the link between riskdiff and standardized mortality ratios.
We have added a sentence in the background section at the end of the second paragraph, which addresses this issue. We believe that it can help to clarify the link between using standardized ratios for analysing mortality or incidence data and the method proposed by Bashir & Estève.

Point 2. Statistical assessment of the differences.
We have added a new paragraph in the discussion section where we mention that the method developed does not consider statistical evaluations of whether the observed differences are or not significant. We suggest that a bootstrap procedure could be considered for this purpose, which could be a future work for us.

Point 3. Specifying format for data text files.
The web interface has been updated adding explanatory paragraphs in order to facilitate its use, specifically regarding to data text files.

Point 4. Error in the website specification.
We have corrected the link for the website specified at the abstract

Reviewer #2 (Peter Byass)
Regarding to the comments of this reviewer, we have checked our manuscript, specifically with respect to the English used in the paper.