Author's response to reviews

Title: Design and baseline characteristics of a prospective cohort study for determinants of osteoporotic fracture in community-dwelling elderly Japanese men: the Fujiwara-kyo Osteoporosis Risk in Men (FORMEN) Study

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Norton,

Thank you very much for your decision of acceptance of our manuscript.

Authors: Masayuki Iki, Yuuki Fujita, Junko Tamaki, Katsuyasu Kouda, Akiko Yura, Eiko Kadowaki, Yuho Sato, Jong-Seong Moon, Nozomi Okamoto, Norio Kurumatani, and Fujiwara-kyo Study Group

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for publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders as study protocol.

We have revised the manuscript according to formatting requirements from the BioMed Central Editorial Production Team. The revisions we have made are as follows:

Major revisions
1. We put our study group name in the first name box and its abbreviation in the last name box of the web submission system, but did not remove the members of the Study Group from the authors in the manuscript and the web submission system because they (MI, ON and NK) have taken a substantial role in designing the FORMEN study and drafting the manuscript. We listed the members of the Study Group in Acknowledgements and stated contribution of the Group in Authors contribution section.
2. Abstract has been re-organized to be Background, Methods/Design and Conclusions.
3. Main text has also been re-organized as requested.
4. There is no additional legend to figures.
5. Shadings and colors used in Table 1 have been replaced with boldface figures.
6. Reference 11 has been removed from the reference list. We inserted the reference information in the text as requested.

Minor revisions
7. Line numbers have been removed from the text.
8. ‘Methods’ has been renamed as ‘Methods/Design’.
9. We are sorry but we cannot place tables and figure legends after the reference. This is a functional limitation of word-processing software, Microsoft Word.
10. A head of ‘Additional files’ has been removed.
11. We failed to crop white space around the figures by Microsoft Power Point. Please remove unnecessary space from the figures by your software.
12. We have read the whole text, tables and figures many times and corrected all the typographical errors found. We believe no correction is necessary any more.

I would be pleased if you find formatting change and corrections satisfactory for publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders. I look forward to hearing from you, soon.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

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