Author's response to reviews

Title: Individual and occupational risk factors for knee osteoarthritis - study protocol of a case control study

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Author's response to reviews:

BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders
Melissa Norton, MD
Editor-in-Chief

Dear colleague,
please find enclosed our revised manuscript.

We addressed your comments as follows:

1. The whole text is black by now.
2. All qualifications were removed from the manuscript and the submission system.
3. The box around the abstract was removed.
4. The section "Abbreviations" could be set aside as all abbreviations were defined in the text where first used.
5. The titles of the sections "Introduction", "Methods", and "Discussion" were changed. In addition, the former section "Methods" was renamed "Instruments".
6. Figure legends were moved after references.
7. The figures were cropped as closely as possible.
8. All figure and table placement text was removed from the manuscript.

With regard to the concordance of the authors’ names in the manuscript and in the submission system we hope, that we found the right way to deal with the
particularity of an aristocratic coauthor, placing "von" in the first name field of the submission system.

If there remain any questions please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Thank you very much for the kind

Yours sincerely,

Monika A. Rieger, MD