Author's response to reviews

Title: Dietary supplement users vary in attitudes and sources of dietary supplement information in East and West geographic regions: a cross-sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to revise and re-submit the manuscript *Dietary supplement users vary in attitudes about usage and sources of dietary supplement information in East and West Geographic regions: a cross-sectional study to BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine*. In this article, we discuss the differences in usage, attitudes, and sources of information of dietary supplements (DS) according to geographic location, thus providing novel information about how these factors vary according to geographic setting. Additionally, the authors present data on perception of DS essentiality to health and degree of confidence in choosing an appropriate DS. We document and discuss the trend toward higher participation of the conventional health care provider in patient DS usage.

I would like to thank Dr. Cartmel for her insightful review. Her suggestions and concerns were carefully considered and addressed as follows:

1. Minor essential revisions were addressed. P-values were included in the text where appropriate, and a more detailed key for p-values were included in tables 2-4.

2. All discretionary revisions were accepted and edits were made accordingly.

3. The comparison groups for tables 3 and 4 were described in text and more clearly described in the table footnotes.

4. Thank you for drawing our attention to the discrepancies in the subject numbers for sex. Sex data missing in the database was available in the original hard copy data; the database was updated and odds ratios were recalculated, though there were virtually no qualitative changes (exception: In table 4, the adjusted OR was not attenuated for location).

We are thankful to the reviewer for her expert opinion and suggestions, and hope that her concerns were addressed adequately. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or concerns.

All co-authors accept responsibility for the content of this manuscript. There are no declared conflicts of interest.

Sincerely,

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