Author's response to reviews

Title: Vibratory stimulation increase the electro-cutaneous sensory detection and pain thresholds in women but not in men

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Changes introduced according to the referee's complaints:

1. Page 3, Methods: The authors applied....

The rationale for using 20 minutes stimulation has now been explained and discussed in the Discussion page 6, second paragraph. The possibility that the efficacy of the vibration stimulus is dependent on application duration, and that that men may require longer stimulation is now discussed in the Discussion on page 6, second paragraph, and also briefly mentioned on page 7, first paragraph.

2. Page 3, Methods: What was the numerical cut-off range...?

The numerical cut-off range has now been mentioned in the Methods, page 3, fourth paragraph.

3. Page 4, Results: Pain threshold after vibration stimulation decreased.....

The difference mentioned by the referee was not statistically significant which is now clearly stated in the Results page 4, forth paragraph,

4. Page 4, Results: The authors should provide P values.....

P-values have now been introduced for comparisons of paired data throughout the Results, page 4. No p-values, however, were introduced to table 1 or the figures since they contain only descriptive data and no comparisons.

5. Page 6, second paragraph: Suggest change the phrase "up to two segmental ..." to "proximal two segmental..."

The text in the Discussion, page 6, second paragraph has been changed to make this point clearer. "Proximal two segmental...." as suggested would not be correct, however, and we have therefore used the phrase "no more than". We have also introduced the reference mentioned in the first complaint by this referee, to illustrate the possibility that distal vibration stimulation might be more efficient than proximal stimulation, Discussion, page 6, second paragraph.

6. Page 6, sixth paragraph: The authors speculate that the differential effect of vibr....

We have deleted this section, as suggested.

7. English language
We have corrected minor language errors, in particular in the results section.

8. Problems with labeling in figures.

We have checked the figures without finding any errors. PM = pain matcher, has been introduced into the legends.