Author’s response to reviews

Title: Coping strategies, stress, physical exercise and sleep in patients with unexplained chest pain

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Version: 2 Date: 19 July 2006

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About the manuscript (MS: 1492519855107514): Coping strategies, stress, physical exercise and sleep in patients with unexplained chest pain.

The following changes have been done in the abstract:

**Method** The design was explorative and correlational. The patient sample consisted of 179 men and women younger than 70 years of age, who were evaluated for chest pain at the emergency department daytime Monday through Friday and judged by a physician to have no organic cause for their chest pain. In total, 285 patients were eligible during the study period. Patients were excluded who 1) were indicated for transfer to intensive care or were too ill to take part in the pain assessment or 2) had language difficulties.

**Results** The use of emotive coping was positively related to chest pain intensity, disturbed sleep, negative life events and mental strain at work, and negatively related to physical exercise. Twenty-seven percent \((n=47)\) of the patients had sleep problems more than 8 to 14 nights per month. Concerning total life events, 20% \((n=35)\) of the patients reported that a close relative had had a serious illness, 27% \((n=49)\) had had reasons to be worried about a close relative. Concerning mental strain at work, 35% \((n=63)\) of the patients were worried often or almost all the time about being rushed at work and 23% \((n=41)\) were worried about being unable to keep up with their workload.

With warm regards,

Margaretha Jerlock