Author's response to reviews

Title: Tea consumption is inversely related to 5-year blood pressure change among adults in Jiangsu, China: a cross-sectional study

Authors:

Xiaoliang Tong (xiaoliangtong@gmail.com)
Anne W Taylor (anne.taylor@adelaide.edu.au)
Lynne Giles (lynne.giles@adelaide.edu.au)
Gary A Wittert (gary.wittert@adelaide.edu.au)
Zumin Shi (zumin.shi@adelaide.edu.au)

Version: 3
Date: 23 September 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr Hiromichi Kumagai

On behalf of all the authors, I would like to thank the Editorial Board and the reviewers for their feedback, and the opportunity to revise this manuscript. Our responses to the reviewers are numbered consecutively below. The revised manuscript is attached.

We thank the referees’ for their constructive feedback and hope that these amendments will be assessed as having improved the quality of the manuscript.

Thank you for your further consideration of this work.

With best wishes

Zumin Shi (corresponding author, on behalf of all authors)
Reviewer 1

It is rather surprising that 846 subjects of 1109 reported no tea drinking. What kind of a beverage did those subjects consume? Just water? How about oolong tea? The authors should present a part of the questionnaire concerning tea. If the authors have data about oolong tea, they should describe the reason why the present manuscript excluded the analyses on oolong tea.

-Response: According to reference 46 and 47, about 34% of Chinese drink tea and the majority drink green tea. In our sample, 23.7% of the participants drank tea. However, direct comparison is difficult between these prevalence estimates. Those who did not drink tea mainly drink water. In the questionnaire, we did not include oolong tea as it is rarely consumed in the study region.

In the methods section, we have added the questions used to assess tea consumption.

“The usual weekly green tea and black tea consumption was assessed by question “How much tea do you drink each week? 1) green tea__liang 2) black tea__liang”. “liang” is a Chinese unit corresponding to 50 g. Total tea consumption was the sum of green and black tea in grams per day.”

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
-Response: We have carefully edited the manuscript.

Reviewer 2

The findings are of interest. I have no specific comments.

-Response: Thank you very much for your positive evaluation.