Author's response to reviews

Title: previous title: Autism, Circumcision and Analgesia: an Ecologic Link
Changed to: Prenatal and Perinatal Analgesic Exposure and Autism: An Ecological Link

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to Reviewers

First, once again we would like to thank the editorial staff for your persistence and to all the reviewers for the thoughtful and constructive critique of this manuscript.

In response to Reviewer 1:

Thank you for your particularly thorough reading of this manuscript. We have corrected all three of your minor essential revisions.

In response to Reviewer 2:

Thank you for your astute comments. We performed the analysis you suggested of correlating the sex ratio to the circumcision rate (as surrogate for paracetamol use). For the post-1995 cohort R=0.40 and for the pre-1995 cohort R=0.20. The results do not strongly support either prenatal or postnatal exposure as the primary determinant; however the change between the two time periods may be an indication of an effect from the postnatal exposure. If the results were a strong indicator for one exposure as opposed to the other, we would have certainly incorporated this into the manuscript but given the results we have elected not to report this.

In response to Reviewer 3:

Thank you again for your thorough read of the first draft. We think your critique was particularly helpful for guiding the improvements in the second draft.