Author's response to reviews

Title: The association of cold weather and all-cause and cause-specific mortality in the island of Ireland between 1984 and 2007: a time-stratified case-crossover study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To the Editor
Environmental Health

Dear Editor,

We would like to re-submit our manuscript, “The association of cold weather and all-cause and cause-specific mortality in the island of Ireland between 1984 and 2007: a time-stratified case-crossover study”, by Stephen Browne, Ariana Zeka, Patrick Goodman and Helen McAvoy, as a Research Article for your journal.

I have made some changes to the formatting of my manuscript to enable the peer review process to begin. I have included a conclusions section at the end of the main text. I have included the list of abbreviations used in the manuscript and included the competing interests of the authors (none in this case) and updated the authors’ contribution section. I have updated the acknowledgements section. The tables have now been included after the references at the end of the manuscript.

The paper is an original work, and all authors of this paper have read and approved the final version submitted. The authors accept responsibility for the manuscript’s contents. The contents of this manuscript have not been copyrighted or published previously, are not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and will not be copyrighted, submitted, or published elsewhere while acceptance by your journal is under consideration. The authors do not have competing financial interests regarding this article.

This study is unique in that it is the first two-national cross-border comparative study to examine the association of cold temperatures and all-cause and cause-specific mortality in the Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Additionally, this study has utilised the most extensive datasets ever used on the island of Ireland and was the first study to report the impact of cold temperatures on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and stroke mortality.

As research into human health and the environment are of interest to Environmental Health, we feel that this study would be appropriate for publication in your journal.

The main text of the paper now consists of a total of 3372 words, excluding abstract, references and tables. The abstract consists of 202 words.

Please send all related correspondence to the address below. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Browne MSc, CMCIEH