Author's response to reviews

Title: Predictive Factors of Urinary Tract Infections among the Oldest Old in the General Population. A Population Based Prospective Follow-up Study.

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Author's response to reviews:

Leiden, March 11th, 2011

Dear (deputy) editors of the BMC Medicine,

Herewith we would like to submit our revised manuscript ‘Predictive Factors of Urinary Tract Infections among the Oldest Old in the General Population. A Population Based Prospective Follow-up Study’ to the BMC Medicine.

In this document we reply to the comments of the editors and the reviewers. The changes that were made according to the editors’ and reviewers’ comments were highlighted in the revised manuscript.

Editors comments:

However, before acceptance, we would urge you to further improve the manuscript in response to the comments made by the reviewers. Specifically we would urge you to reproduce the tables you created in your point by point response to reviewers within the main body of your manuscript at the relevant points of the text.

As recommended we added the tables to the manuscript.

Referee 3: Tomas Griebling

Major compulsory revisions

The authors have addressed the issues raised in the initial reviews.

Of note, they did create three (3) additional Tables which appear in the response to reviewers, but not in the actual body of the manuscript. There is brief mention
of this information in the text. However, these Tables present important data and results that were identified during the review process and should be incorporated into the full manuscript.

The first table in our answer to the reviewers is an overview of two or more UTI a year. At the end of page 11 and top of page 12 we reported the results of these findings and added the per year range instead of the table. In our opinion the table does not give additional information.

As recommended, we added table 2: Incidences of UTI in Index Groups and Reference Groups with the Corresponding Hazard Ratios after Univariate Cox Regression Analysis for the 9 Items of the Groningen Activity Restriction Scale after the Age of 86 Years (n=479).

We also added table 4: Predictive factors for UTI stratified for Living Situation by Univariate Cox Regression Analysis after the Age of 86 Years; the stratified analysis for living situation.

We hope you will consider our manuscript for publication in BMC Medicine.

On behalf of all authors,

Yours sincerely,

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