Author’s response to reviews

Title: Body temperature measurement in ambulance: a challenge of 21-st century?

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Hagos Tasew Atalay, MSc (Reviewer 2):

Your title says about challenges of 21st body temperature, however your result does not specify about any challenges

Our results clearly show that measuring core temperature, and thus following international guidelines is nearly impossible in prehospital period. Hence, it is a great challenge to treat hypothermic patients properly.

How you calculate your sample size?

What sample size? It was clearly stated that a priori ALL operators were surveyed.

Your conclusions are different from your abstract and the main conclusion page 7 line 17-22.

The aforementioned section is a part of discussion. Conclusions are on page 8, lines 12-19. They are coherent with the abstract.

Generally, the previous comment should be clearly explained.

We addressed all comments in a previous revision.
Shridevi Singh, MD (Reviewer 3): the study concept of this paper is good and the surveying of the type of thermometers available that can measure for body temperature provides an interesting result. The study would be best supported if the authors added a pilot study to show how significant the difference would be from core temperature measurements vs surface temperature and what would be the impact or triage of those patients based on the difference. Even if a pilot study isn't done, a citing of another study or a paragraph explaining this point would be beneficial and make this study, I feel more publishable.

Thank you for this opportunity to review your article! hope it was constructive!

Thank you for your comments. We did not conduct a pilot study, and we did not find any study comparing the outcomes in patients regarding the type of thermometer used. The only study that describes an incoherence between core temperature and symptoms was mentioned in discussion. We also highlighted the possible consequences of such an incoherence (page 7, lines 10-20). Differences between core, superficial or tympanic (infrared) temperatures strongly depend on ambient temperature and weather conditions in particular cases. Thus, we could not provide a precise comparison. However, we highlighted this problem in introduction, and provided relevant references.