Author’s response to reviews

Title: Understanding the importance of key risk factors in predicting chronic bronchitic symptoms using a machine learning approach

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Dear Editorial Office,

Thank you for your letter dated 10/24/2018. We are pleased to have the opportunity to submit a revision of our manuscript for your consideration. Our point-by-point response to the comments raised by the reviewer has been uploaded under a separate file (BCP_ResponseToReviewer.docx). The manuscript and online supplement have been modified accordingly.

While preparing the revised manuscript, we refined our approach of selecting the training and the corresponding within- and across-participants data sets. The main results were not affected by this change.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the reviewers who took the time to comment on and offer suggestions for our manuscript. We believe the manuscript has been strengthened by the changes we made in response to the reviewer comments and we hope the revised manuscript is accepted for publication.
Sincerely,

Huiyu Deng

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(on behalf of ourselves and our co-authors)