Author's response to reviews

Title: Excessive daytime sleepiness and falls among older men and women: cross-sectional examination of a population-based sample.

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Dr. Geeske Peeters
Associate editor; Physical functioning, physical health and activity,
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**Authors:** Amie C Hayley, Lana J Williams, Gerard A Kennedy, Kara L Holloway, Michael Berk, Sharon L Brennan-Olsen and Julie A Pasco.

Dear Dr. Peeters,

Thank you for considering the further revised version of the original research article for publication in BMC Geriatrics.

We have addressed all aspects of the comments and concerns raised and have adapted these typographical suggestions. Please find attached to this letter our detailed response to the comments raised by the editor.

We have uploaded a copy of the original manuscript marked with all the changes made during the revision process. The new text is underlined while the crossed-out text refers to the deleted original text. We have also uploaded a clean version of this final manuscript.

Thank you again for allowing us to resubmit a revised copy of the manuscript. We look forward to hearing from you in due time regarding our submission.

Many thanks,

Amie C. Hayley

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Editors comments:

Table 2:

-please write out EDS in full in the title of the table followed with the abbreviation in brackets.

We have now included both the full extension and abbreviation of EDS in the title of Table 2.

-I'm assuming that the abbreviation "ESS" in the footnote should be "EDS"

The abbreviation ESS refers to the Epworth Sleepiness Scale, used to identify cases of EDS (ESS scores of ≥10 used to identify cases of EDS). We have retained this abbreviation in the Table footnote as it allows readers to ascertain how we classified EDS; however have now inserted the full title of the scale title (Epworth Sleepiness Scale), followed by the abbreviation (ESS) in this footnote.

-please remove 0/1 behind EDS in the first line of the adjusted results for men as it is unclear what this means

This has now been removed.

Type in the 3rd line of the paragraph on mechanistic pathways:
I believe that "reduction IS total sleep time" should be "reduction iN total sleep time"

This has now been amended.