Author’s response to reviews

Title: Physical activity types and risk of dementia in community-dwelling older people: the Three-City cohort.

Authors:

Caroline Dupré (caroline.dupre@cetaf.fr)
Bienvenue Bongue (bienvenu.bongue@cetaf.fr)
Catherine Helmer (catherine.helmer@u-bordeaux.fr)
Jean Dartigues (jean-francois.dartigues@u-bordeaux.fr)
David Hupin (David.Hupin@chu-st-etienne.fr)
Frédéric Roche (frederic.roche@univ-st-etienne.fr)
Claudine Berr (claudine.berr@inserm.fr)
Isabelle Carriere (isabelle.carriere@inserm.fr)

Version: 2 Date: 28 Feb 2020

Author’s response to reviews:

Manuscript ID BGTC-D-19-00825R1

Title: Physical activity type and risk of dementia in community-dwelling older people: the Three-City cohort
Caroline Dupré, MSc; Bienvenue Bongue, PhD; Catherine Helmer, MD, PhD; Jean François Dartigues, MD, PhD; David Hupin, MD; Frédéric Roche, MD; Claudine Berr, MD, PhD; Isabelle Carriere, PhD

Dear Dr Ahmet Turan Isik,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript. As requested by the reviewer we modified the limitation section in the discussion. We provide a specific answer below. The modification is underlined in yellow in the revised version.

We hope that you will consider our revised manuscript for publication in BMC Geriatrics.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Isabelle Carrière
Reviewer 2

Revision 1
3- Although the authors have used hierarchical disability indicator, how many of these patients had gait and balance problems, walking assistance, etc.
Response:
We do not have this information (gait speed and balance problems, walking assistance). However, we have excluded participants who were confined at home at baseline.

Revision 2
Thanks to the authors for their responses to the comments. They have addressed unclear points accurately. However, there is one thing that is not entirely clear enough for me (in parallel to the comment no 3).
It is acceptable that participants who were confined at home at baseline were excluded. Nevertheless, there could be participants who were not confined at home at baseline, but need for assistance in walking or have gait and balance problems or have fear of falling, have slow walking speed, etc. Did the authors exclude those elder participants or not. As the aforementioned factors might contribute to low level of physical activity, so thus to dementia risk, please clarify this point either in methods or in limitation section.
Response:
To clarify and as we do not have data on these physical limitations, we added the following sentence in the Discussion, limitation section (line 249):
“A residual confounding may also remain because we did not have information on participants who were not confined but who could have gait and balance problems or need assistance to walk.”