Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association between the incidence of varicella and meteorological conditions in Jinan, Eastern China, 2012-2014

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the comments and concern. The manuscript was revised according to all these comments and concerns. A point-to-point response to the Editors’ comments was attached. We appreciate you kindly offer the opportunity to transfer our manuscript.

Best!
Yunqing Yang

Editorial Request:

Request 1. Data sources

Please clarify the permissions necessary to access the data used in your study. In particular, please state in your manuscript whether any specific permission was necessary (and if so, who provided it) to access and analyse the reported varicella cases data. Furthermore, please provide more details about how to access the meteorological data of the Jinan Meteorological Bureau. If possible, please add references to the documentation mentioned in your manuscript.

Respond: The reported varicella cases data were obtained from Jinan center for disease control and prevention (JNCDC). Our co-authors including Xingyi Geng, Xiaoxue Liu, Weiru Wang, and Ji Zhang are from JNCDC, of which Ji Zhang is the correspondence author. In this reversion, we clarify the statement as: “all varicella cases were required to be reported to JNCDC through NNDRS with standardized format, including the information of name, sex, age, address and date of symptom onset.”

The meteorological data of the Jinan Meteorological Bureau can be free accessed from the website of “http://data.cma.gov.cn/”. In this revised version, we added the the website into the manuscript.
Request_2. Ethics statement
Please capitalize all first letters in "Jinan center for control and prevention".
Respond: Done as suggestion.

Request_3. Conclusions
Could you please add a section "Conclusions" after section "Discussion". This should state clearly the main conclusions of the research article and give a clear explanation of their importance and relevance. You may wish to use the last paragraph of section "Discussion" for this purpose.
Respond: Done as suggestion.

Request_4. Acknowledgements
Please clarify the acknowledgement to "All enrollees who participated in the study", which is a bit confusing as there is no description of participants being enrolled in your study. If applicable, please declare any source(s) of funding for each author in this section.
Respond: as suggestion, we revised the acknowledgement section as:
“We wish to give special thanks to the public unit coordinators and nurses in hospitals in Jinan. This study was supported by the project for Medical science and technology of Shandong Province(grant number: 2014WS0009). The funding bodies had no role in the study design, data collection and analysis, preparation of the paper, or the decision to publish. ”

Request_5. Figures
Please submit each figure as a separate Figure item. Please remove the figure legends from the image files and collect them instead at the end of the manuscript text document. Kindly also correct the legend for figure 1: "Monthly distribution of reported varicella cases in Jinan, China, 2012-2014" instead of "Monthly disturbance of varicella reported cases in Jinan, China, 2012-2014"; and change "disturbance" with "distribution" also in the figure legend of figure 2.
Respond: done as suggestion.

Request_6. Tables
Please do not upload the tables as separate Figure items, but include them at the end of the main manuscript text document.
Respond: done as suggestion.

Request_7. Manuscript documents
At this stage, we would appreciate if the manuscript text document and any related files that you submit do not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights or text in different colours.
Respond: done as suggestion.

Request_8. Copyediting

We recommend that you copyedit the paper to improve the style of written English. If this is not possible, you may need to use a professional language editing service. For authors who wish to have the language in their manuscript edited by a native-English speaker with scientific expertise, BioMed Central recommends Edanz (www.edanzediting.com/bmc1). BioMed Central has negotiated a 10% discount to the fee charged to BioMed Central authors by Edanz. Use of an editing service is neither a requirement nor a guarantee of acceptance for publication. For more information, see our FAQ on language editing services at http://www.biomedcentral.com/authors/authorfaq/editing.

Respond# as suggestion, we let our manuscript edited by Edanz. Now this version of manuscript was language edited by native-English speakers.