Author’s response to reviews

Title: Variables Associated with Use of Symptomatic Medication during a Headache Attack in Individuals with Tension-Type Headache: A European Study

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We would like to thank the reviewer for this final remark about the inclusion of regression analyses. We have followed the suggestion sent by the reviewer. We have highlighted all changes in yellow throughout the text. We have included a point-by-point cover letter.

Min Kyung Chu (Reviewer 5)

Comment: The authors properly responded to comments and revised the manuscript. I am hoping to express the authors’ endeavors. One point of my comment was not properly responded for statistical analyses. The authors responded that the statistical analyses were conducted by an experienced statistician but did not described the theoretical background. I think that additional responses based on statistical background is needed. The authors responded that regression analyses were unavailable owing to nature of variables. However, logistic regression analyses were possible by using dichotomized variables.
Response: We have included as supplementary files the regression analysis showing that the differences observed were maintained after multiple comparisons. We believe that data in the main tables are clear for the readers and the regression tables only support the results. Therefore, we believe as supplementary file is OK.

Statistical analysis (lines 235-236):

“Regression analysis were conducted to determine that the differences observed with the ANOVA remained significant after the inclusion of multiple comparisons.”

Results (lines 262-264):

“The regression analysis showed the same significant differences between those individuals taking or not taking symptomatic medication (Supplementary Table 1).”

Results (lines 281-285):

“For regression analysis, patients were grouped as total pain relief or no total pain relief (no pain relief and moderate pain relief together). Again, the regression analysis revealed significant differences according to the effects of symptomatic medication (Supplementary Table 2).”

Results (lines 304-306):

“The regression analysis confirmed the association of lower PPTs (higher pressure pain sensitivity) in those patients taking ‘late symptomatic’ medication (Supplementary Table 3).”

We hope that with the inclusion of this final comment from the reviewer, the paper can be accepted for publication in BMC Neurology

Sincerely yours, The authors