Author’s response to reviews

Title: Socioeconomic inequality in periconceptional folic acid supplementation in China: a census of 0.9 million women in their first trimester of pregnancy

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Version: 2 Date: 02 Nov 2017

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editors:

Thank you for your letter and for the comments concerning our manuscript entitled “Socioeconomic inequality in periconceptional folic acid supplementation in China: a census of 0.9 million women in their first trimester of pregnancy" (PRCH-D-17-00246R1). Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper. We have made the requested changes which we hope meets your approval. The revised portions are marked in red in the manuscript. The main corrections in the paper and the responds to the reviewers' comments are as following:

Editor Comments:

Thank-you for the revision of this paper. I am satisfied that you have mostly addressed the previous suggestions. There remain however a couple of minor aspects that still need improving before the paper is ready for processing for publication:

Page 3, line 12-17: This is a very long and complex sentence. I suggest:
The aim of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness and equity of the national program providing free peri-conceptional folic acid supplementation in China. We designed a study with a large sample size to determine the rate of folic acid intake among rural Chinese women of childbearing age and to analyse the association between the rate of folic acid intake with the individual sociodemographic characteristics of the women, their families and the social economic status of their living areas.

-Response: Thanks for the suggestion. We have revised this sentence following the Editor’s suggestion. Please refer to Page 3, line 12-17.

Page 6, line 47: “In the invariable logistic regression model…..” This should be univariate

-Response: Thanks for the suggestion. We have changed “invariable” to “univariate”. Please refer to Page 6, line 47.

Page 6, line 48: Please look at this sentence: “sociodemographic characteristics of rural Chinese women or the socioeconomic levels of the areas” I think the authors intended this to be ‘and’??

-Response: Thanks for the suggestion. We have changed “or” to “and”. Please refer to Page 6, line 48.

Page 7, line 9: Please clarify the term ‘prepared pregnancy women’. Do the authors actually mean pre pregnancy?

-Response: Thanks for the suggestion. We have changed “prepared pregnancy” to “pre-pregnancy”. Please refer to Page 7, line 9.

Page 7, Line 13: (95% confidence interval [95% CI] 14.2-15.4). Please revise repetition of confidence interval it should not be written twice.

-Response: Thanks for the suggestion. We have changed “prepared pregnancy” to “pre-pregnancy”. Please refer to Page 7, line 13.

Page 7, Line 49: “Our study also found that the approximately 60%....’ Please delete ‘the’

-Response: Thanks for the suggestion. We have deleted ‘the’ following the Editor’s suggestion. Please refer to Page 7, line 49.

Reviewer reports:

No additional comments.

Thanks again for the Editors and Reviewers’ comments on improving our paper.