Author’s response to reviews

Title: Assessing the risk factors before pregnancy of preterm births in Iran: a population-based case-control study

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Answer to Reviewer Comment:

Dear editor,

We are appreciated to give the opportunity to resubmit our revised manuscript, PRCH-D-17-00032R5, entitled “Assessing the risk factors before pregnancy of preterm births in Iran: a population-based case-control study”. We provide a point-by-point response letter accompanies the revised manuscript and hope that this revised manuscript is now acceptable. Each concern is discussed in detail below. Thank you for allowing us to resubmit our manuscript for your consideration.

First and foremost, we would like to extend our sincere apologies for the delay you have experienced and thank you for sending your Change of Authorship form. However, before we can proceed with publication we would like to request the following amendments.

1. In section 2 of the Change of authorship form we note the following:

- 2nd and 3rd authors are ordered differently on the Title page of the ORIGINAL submission

Sorry for this error. Of course the 3rd and 4th name is replaced (Shahin Saeidinejat, Marzieh Eslahi), not 2nd and 3rd and it is corrected according to original title page list.

-Hajipour missing from the list of authors in the Change of authorship form.

Mr.Hajipur is the last name in our author list as 16th name in section 2 and 19th name in section 4.

-Etemad and Taghipour included in the Change of authorship form but are not on the title page of the ORIGINAL submission.

Mr.Koorosh Etemad and Mr.Ali Taghipour are our coauthors that missing in the previous list of author and is added recently in Section 4 of authorship list.
Therefore please ensure that the list of authors is included in the Change of Authorship form is EXACTLY as it is included on the title page of the original submission (please see below for reference).

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Naeimeh Keyghobadi
Mostafa Enayatrad
Abed Noori
Seyyed Aliasghar Hashemi
Fatemeh Zolfizadeh
Sepideh Mahdavi
Tannaz Valadbeigi
Mahmoud Hajipour

- In section 4 we note that Salehnasab is missing.

Mr.Cirrus Salehnasab was added in section 4 as a new author in the 18th row of author list, before Mr.Hajipour name.

** Please ensure that all authors are included, along with their individual contributions, in the Authors’ Contributions section.
2. Please clarify whether the maps depicted in figure 1 are your own or taken from another source.

If taken from another source please acknowledge the source in the figure legend, and if it is under copyright also state the written permission given to use and adapt it. If the above conditions are not met the image needs to be removed. Please note the editors may request proof of permission at any time.

Figure 1 is not taken from another source and also is not copied, but also is design by ARC GIS software to show our provinces under study.