Author’s response to reviews

Title: GESTATIONAL AGE AT BIRTH AND BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS FROM FOUR TO ELEVEN YEARS OF AGE: BIRTH COHORT STUDY

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REPLY TO THE REVIEWERS

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GESTATIONAL AGE AT BIRTH AND BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS FROM FOUR TO ELEVEN YEARS OF AGE: BIRTH COHORT STUDY

Iná Santos; Fernando Barros; Tiago Munhoz; Alicia Matijasevich

BMC Pediatrics

Dear Dr Rebecca Strong,

Thank you very much for considering our manuscript potentially acceptable for publication in BMC Pediatrics. Our answers to the issues raised in the last round of review are in italic blue below. All the comments and suggestions have been addressed in this 2nd revised version.

On behalf of all the co-authors, thank you and best wishes.

Iná S. Santos
1. We notice that mothers signed a consent form at each follow-up. Please clarify if this was on behalf of them and their children in the "Ethics and consent to participate" section. Please also clarify what "adolescents" classifies as.

Response: As for clarification, the “Ethics approval and consent to participate” sub-section was re-written and now reads:

“The Medical Ethics Committee of the Federal University of Pelotas approved the study protocol and all follow-ups of the Pelotas 2004 Birth Cohort Study. Mothers signed a consent form on behalf of them and their children at each follow-up, after being informed of the study objectives. At the 11-year follow-up, the cohort participants aged 11 years or more also signed an informed consent form.”

2. Please consider the list of authors as it currently stands with reference to our guidelines regarding qualification for authorship (http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship). Currently, the contributions of author TNM does not automatically qualify them for authorship. Please provide clarification on their contributions, or remove their names from the list of authors and place them in the “Acknowledgements” section instead.

Response: The “Author’s contribution” sub-section was re-written to truly express TNM contribution to the study: “TNM made substantial contributions to acquisition and interpretation of data.”.

3. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Response: The final, clean version of the manuscript will be uploaded as recommended.

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Declarations

- Ethics approval and consent to participate – Please, see answer to item #1 above
- Consent to publish - OK
- Availability of data and materials - OK
- Competing interests - OK
- Funding - OK
- Authors' Contributions - Please, see answer to item #2 above
- Acknowledgements - OK