Author’s response to reviews

Title: Over-connected? A qualitative exploration of smartphone addiction among working adults in China

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for conditionally accepting our paper. Enclosed please find our revised manuscript “Over-connected? A qualitative exploration of smartphone addiction among working adults in China.” (Manuscript ID: BPSY-D-19-00038R3) for resubmission to BMC Psychiatry. In the current version of the manuscript, we have addressed your suggestions point-by-point. The detailed responses are demonstrated as follows:

1. We note that your manuscript contains potentially identifiable information; i.e. age, sex, etc., before or after each included participant quote. Please amend the manuscript to address this issue by removing the names and ages of participants. If pseudonyms have been used we ask that you to clearly state so at the beginning of your methods section. Alternatively, you may opt to change them to randomized participant identifier numbers at this time in order to fully protect and ensure the anonymity of the participants.

A : Thanks for Reviewer 1 to point out this. In this revised manuscript, we have removed all potentially identifiable information of the participants, such as age, gender, names, and occupation or place of work. Moreover, in order to fully protect and ensure the anonymity of the participants, their identifiable information were concealed and showed as “Respondent XX (number)” in the results section. Notably, participants’ numbers were randomly identified. We have stated this in the Methods section. (Methods section, line 20, page 8).
2. Please revise the following sentence found on page 8 so that the full name of the IRB is specified: "Prior to the survey, approval was sought from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of XXX University."

A: Before the data collection was carried out, approval was obtained from the institutional review board of Nanyang Technological University (Reference No.: IRB-2014-12-013). As suggested, the full name of the IRB on page 8 has been added in this revised version (Methods section, line 11, page 8).

3. When submitting your revised manuscript please ensure you do so as a single clean copy without any tracked changes, colored or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

A: As advised, we have submitted a single cleaned copy of our revised manuscript without any tracked changes, colored or highlighted text at this time.

We are confident that we have addressed all the comments raised by the reviewers and editor, but of course, we would be glad to make additional changes or revisions if necessary. Thank you very much for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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