Author’s response to reviews

Title: Predictors of Outcome in Early Onset Schizophrenia: A 10-Year Follow-Up Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Byrne,

Thank you for the speedy reply to our last submission. We have edited the manuscript according to reviewer suggestions.

Best wishes,

Jing Liu

Response to reviewer suggestions:
Svein Friis (Reviewer 1): In my opinion the paper has clearly been improved. I appreciate the clarification of how data has been collected, and the reasons for not involving the patients themselves. This is now satisfactorily described in the Limitation section.

However, some formulations in the abstract and the result section ought to be reformulated to avoid misunderstandings.

Reply: We thank the reviewer for their detailed remarks. The suggestions are of great assistance to both the current manuscript and future writings.

1. Abstract Methods, line 4-5: "While follow up was conducted primarily through telephone interviews" Here "of relatives" ought to be added.

Reply: This sentence was modified to “while follow up was conducted primarily through telephone interviews of patient relatives”

2. Abstract Results, first line: "Of the 65 interviewed subjects" ought to be changed to: "Of the 65 subjects where follow-up data were available".

Reply: Changes were made accordingly.

3. Main paper, Results, first line under 3.2 Mortality, suicide and depression: "Of the 65 patients who were successfully interviewed" ought to be changed to: "Of the 65 patients about whom we succeeded to collect follow-up data".

Reply: Changes were made accordingly.

4. Main paper, Results, first line under 3.3 Diagnostic stability: "Of the 55 subjects who provided information" ought to be changed to: "Of the 55 subjectes about whom we had information".

Reply: Changes were made accordingly.

In addition I have one minor comment:

5. Main paper, Line 9-10 under 4.6 Limitation: "Therefore, the high attrition rate has minimal effect on the outcome". May I suggest something like: "This reduces the likelihood that the high attrition rate has substantially biased outcome".

Reply: Changes were made accordingly.