Author’s response to reviews

Title: Suicidal ideation and attempts in population-based samples of women: temporal changes between 1989 and 2015

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Suicidal ideation and attempts in population-based samples of women: temporal changes between 1989 and 2015

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Dear Editor

We are grateful for the opportunity to resubmit a revised version of our manuscript.

Based on Editors comments we have made revisions and comments and these are presented below. Besides the Editor comments, we submit a clean version of our manuscript which does not include any track changes or highlighting.

All co-authors have read and approved the revised version of the manuscript.

Best regards, Solveig Lövestad
1. Editor comments:
Consent to participate: In your “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section of your Declarations please clearly state whether the consent obtained from the participants was written or verbal.

Our answer:
We have according to the editor’s suggestion under the “Ethical approval and consent to participate” section, clarified how consent was obtained: “Oral informed consent (in 1989-1991, 1994-1998 and 2000-2002) and written informed consent in 2013-2015 was obtained from the interviewees…”

2. Editor comments:
Funding: In the Funding section, please also describe the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Our answer:
In the “Funding” section we have added the following description: “The funders had no role in the study design, data collection, analysis or interpretation of data, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript”.

3. Editor comments:
Authors contributions: Please include a statement in the Authors' contributions section to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript, and ensure that this is the case.

Our answer:
We have now, under the section “Authors contribution”, added the following phrase: “All authors read and approved the final manuscript”.

4. Editor comments:
Questionnaire: Please clarify whether the questionnaire used in your study was developed for this study or has previously been published elsewhere. If the questionnaire has been published elsewhere please provide a reference to it in your manuscript, if the interview guide was developed for this study please upload an English language version as a supplementary file.

Our answers:
The screening questionnaire was not developed for this particular study, it was developed in 1986 by the two researchers (Fredrik Spak and Tore Hällström) who started the project Women and Alcohol (WAG) in 1986. The screening questionnaire has been published before, thus we have added a sentence in the manuscript on line 126, under the methods section, explaining the following: “This screening questionnaire has been published and described more in detail in a previous article by Spak and Hällström (22)”. We have also put the corresponding reference (no 22) to that explanation.

5. Editor comments:
Interview Guide: Please clarify whether the interview guide used in your study was developed for this study or has previously been published elsewhere. If the interview guide has been published elsewhere please provide a reference to it in your manuscript, if the interview guide was developed for this study please upload an English language version as a supplementary file.
Our answers:
The interview guide was not developed for this particular study. In this study, apart from the sociodemographic factors described under the methods section, we used questions on suicidal ideation and attempts based on Paykel et al and Meehan et al, which we also refer to in the manuscript (reference number 28 and 29 respectively) under the methods section/"variables". We hope that this has clarified any questions or doubts.

6. Editor comments:
Clean manuscript: 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.

Our answers:
We have cleaned the manuscript and all the tables and hope that we have done everything correctly and according to suggestions and editor policies.