Author’s response to reviews

Title: Cigar Package Quantity and Smoking Behavior

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Author’s response to reviews:

June 6, 2019

Rosie Brooks
Maxine Dillon
BMC Public Health

Dear Ms. Brooks and Ms. Dillon:

Thank you for the opportunity to revise and resubmit our manuscript, “Cigar Package Quantity and Smoking Behavior,” to BMC Public Health.

We have made the requested changes, as described below.
The image depicted in Figure 1 is not under copyright and therefore available for public use without permission.

Thank you, and we look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

Alexander Persoskie
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Editor Comment 1: Please move your Acknowledgements section to the Declarations section, after the Conclusions.

Author Response: We moved this as requested.

Editor Comment 2: Please remove the Disclaimer section of the Declarations. If you still wish to include this text, please include it in another section of the Declarations, for example Acknowledgements or Funding section.

Author Response: We moved the disclaimer text to the Acknowledgements section as requested.

Editor Comment 3: As your study was an analysis of pre-existing data and therefore ethics approval and consent was not applicable, please change your 'Ethics approval and consent to participate section' to reflect this.

Author Response: As requested, we changed this section to say, “This study was an analysis of pre-existing data. Therefore, ethics approval and consent to participate were not applicable.”
Editor Comment 4: 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.

Author Response: We added the following to the Funding section: “NIH, FDA, and Westat collaborated to design the PATH Study and the data collection procedures, and Westat collected the pre-existing data used in the current study. The FDA reviewed the current study’s proposal and the final manuscript. Six authors (AP, EKO, EAD, KC, AK, CAS) completed this research (including analysis, interpretation of data, and manuscript writing) as part of their paid work duties in their positions within these organizations.”

Editor Comment 5: The individual contributions of all authors to the manuscript should be specified in the Authors’ Contributions section. Guidance and criteria for authorship can be found here:

http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship

Author Response: We revised this section as follows: “AP, EKO, and EAD conceptualized the initial research questions and analysis plan. JP, KC, AK, CAS, and CDD provided input on the research questions and analysis plan. EKO conducted the analyses and EAD replicated them. AP, EKO, EAD, JP, KC, AK, CAS, and CDD each participated in interpreting results, writing sections of the rough draft of the manuscript, and revising the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.”

Editor Comment 6: Please provide a list of all the abbreviations used in the manuscript. This list should be placed just before the Declarations section. All abbreviations should still be defined in the text at first use.

Author Response: We added the following list of abbreviations and edited text to assure they are all defined at first use:

Abbreviations:

US: United States
PATH: Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health

GED: General Educational Development

GM: geometric mean

FDA: United States Food and Drug Administration

SE: Standard Error

Editor Comment 7: Please state in the cover letter whether the image depicted in figure 1 requires permission from the source. If it is under copyright please 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. Should you require an alternative source you may wish to try Wikimedia Commons: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

Author Response: The image depicted in Figure 1 is not under copyright and therefore available for public use without permission. We have added this information to the cover letter.

Editor Comment 8: Please upload your revised manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. Please also ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the text. Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication.

Author Response: We followed these instructions and double-checked that all figures and tables are cited within the text.