Author’s response to reviews

Title: Acculturation is associated with older Turkish immigrants’ self-management abilities

Authors:

J. M. Cramm (cramm@eshpm.eur.nl)

Anna Nieboer (nieboer@eshpm.eur.nl)

Version: 1 Date: 08 May 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Reviewer reports:

Bienvenu Bongue, Ph.D. (Reviewer 1): This article is well written and it is relevant for the BMC Public Health with minor comments.

We thank the reviewer for these positive comments and the decision to accept our manuscript after discretionary revisions.

Authors could include in the discussion the number of years of life in the host country.

Because we do not have this information, we included this in our study limitations. We do know that Turkish older people are mainly first generation migrants (they were born in Turkey). Most of the men moved to the Netherlands before 1973 and their families often joined them a few years later. This means that most of them live in the Netherlands for over 40 years (SCP, 2001).

they could also show in the supplementary data how they calculated the D-PAS and T-PAS

As requested by the reviewer we included calculation of the D-PAS and T-PAS in the methods section.

Asli Davas, PhD (Reviewer 2): It is a well written and important article. Thanks for authors.
We also thank reviewer 2 for these positive comments and decision to accept our manuscript after discretionary revisions.

I have some minor recommendations.

Introduction

In terms of acculturation, it is important to mention in this part that integration is not the responsibility of migrants solely it is a result of mutual dynamic interaction between the host country.

We agree with the reviewer and added this to the manuscript.

Methods

It would be good to explain in more detailed way that construction of four acculturation strategies in relation with attachment to Dutch or Turkish culture.

We clarified how we calculated the acculturation strategies in the methods section.

It is difficult to understand Table 2. Each row presented an analyses. How did this analyses done? For example comparing integration/others and male/female?

Yes that is correct. These results are based on two-sided test in which we identify differences in acculturation strategies between groups (men versus women, higher versus lower educated etcetera). We clarified this I a footnote below the Table.

Discussion
The discussion section is based on a lot of finding repetition. It would be good to compare the findings more with other studies and theories like social adaptation.

Was it enough to conduct this research with those variables? What will authors recommend us to look for in further research? In discussion there is no recommendation to migrants or health and social policies on how integration will be enhanced in terms of increasing self-management abilities?

We followed the reviewer’s advice and made some suggestions for future research (including to use social adaptation theory as suggested by the reviewer).