**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** DETERMINANTS OF INTERNATIONAL VARIATION IN THE PREVALENCE OF DISABLING WRIST AND HAND PAIN

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Assistant Editor Comments:

1. Overlap

We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:


This overlap mainly exists in the Methods section.

While we understand that this is work that you have previously published, and some of the same ideas are contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. For methods and studies you have previously done please summarise and reference the original study instead.

Please be informed that we cannot proceed with handling your manuscript before this issue is resolved, and the sections of text in question have been reformulated.

RESPONSE:

I am grateful to Dr Fitzpatrick for the further clarification that it is paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Methods which are problematic. As suggested, I have briefly summarised what was done and referenced the earlier published report.

2. Abbreviations
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.

RESPONSE:

This has been done.

3. Authors' Contributions

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

RESPONSE:

This has been done, and the authors have been identified by full initials.