Author’s response to reviews

Title: Important work demands for reducing sickness absence among workers with neck or upper back pain: a prospective cohort study

Authors:

Stefan Oliv (stefan.oliv@amm.gu.se)
Adnan Baloch (adnan.noor.baloch@amm.gu.se)
Ewa Gustafsson (ewa.gustafsson@amm.gu.se)
Mats Hagberg (mats.hagberg@amm.gu.se)
Helena Sandén (helana.sanden@amm.gu.se)

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Important work demands for reducing sickness absence among workers with neck pain: a prospective cohort study Stefan Oliv, M.sc; Adnan Noor Baloch, M.Sc; Ewa Gustafsson, Phd; Mats Hagberg, Md, Phd; Helena Sandén, Md, Phd BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders

Dear Editor and Reviewers,

Thank you for your valuable comments. We have made alterations and clarifications in the manuscript following your comments. All alterations and clarifications are listed and highlighted below and in the revised manuscript.

Best regards
Stefan Oliv

Reviewer reports:
Markus Josef Ernst (Reviewer 1): Dear authors

all my previously mentioned concerns have been clarified.

1. as a minor remark, I would, however, change through the whole paper including the tables the term "neck pain" to "neck and upper back pain", as this is what your questionnaires has asked the employees/workers.
Thank you for your comments. We have changed the term “neck pain” to “neck or upper back pain” throughout the manuscript as suggested.