Author’s response to reviews

Title: A seven-year retrospective analysis of patch test data in a cohort of patients with contact dermatitis in Sri Lanka

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Reviewer reports:

Stephan Forchhammer (Reviewer 1): Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

Please overwrite this text when adding your comments to the authors.
corrected
Anna Caroline Pilz (Reviewer 2):

1. The attached table of the shoe series is of poor quality. Please provide a list that is easy to read (sharp letters).

attached

2. Unfortunately, you did not yet correct #2:

Since you did not perform patch tests on randomly selected people of the general population but on patients with contact dermatitis, please replace the term "population" (p.2, 1.56) with e.g. "study population" or "tested patients".

corrected

3. Please only cite recent papers that contain relevant information for the paper. The aspect that 28.6% of children had a positive reaction in an Israeli study does not add valuable information.

Please cite other more recent and relevant studies in regard to patch test results in Asian countries.

I added new citations

4. Unfortunately, you did not yet correct #12.3 und #12.9:

p.3, 1.39: please insert "to" between "estimated" and "be"

p.2/7/8: Please pay attention to small and capital letters (consistent style). If not located at the beginning of a sentence, the mentioned allergens e.g. "nickel sulfate", "potassium dichromate" "thiuram mix", "2-mercaptobenzothiazole", "mercapto mix" do not need to be capitalized.

Corrected
5. Unfortunately, you did not yet revise the following sentences.

p.3, ll.1-3
p.4, ll.5-8

revised

6. p.5, l.33: Please insert a blank between "48" and "hours"

p.4, l.22: Please remove "irritant"

corrected