Author’s response to reviews

Title: Education and income-based inequality in tooth loss among Brazilian adults: does the place you live make a difference?

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Arwa Tawfiq
BMC Oral Health

On behalf of my co-authors, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to revise and re-submit our manuscript titled “Education and income-based inequality in tooth loss among Brazilian adults: does the place you live make a difference?” to BMC Oral Health. We revised the manuscript to address the Assistant Editor Comments.

1. Abstract: Please ensure that the Abstract entered into your manuscript is the same as that entered into the submission system.
   R: We checked the abstract into the submission system to ensure it is the same as that into the manuscript.

2. Manuscript text: We note that the references to the ethnicity of your participants does not conform to scientific standards, such as “brown”, “yellows”, “white” and “black”. When referring to the ethnicity of participants, please only refer to the specific countries or continents from which participants originate from. Please amend these references in your manuscript as appropriate.
   R: In this study, we used the classification for self-reported skin color, which is adopted in the demographic census performed in Brazil. For this reason, we removed the ethnicity reference.
3. Permissions: In the Ethics approval and consent to participate section, please explicitly state whether any administrative permissions and/or licenses were acquired by your team to access the data you used in your research.
R: The information about the requested permission to access the database was added in the ethics approval and consent.

4. Questionnaire/survey/interview guide
Please note that if a questionnaire, survey and/or interview guide has been developed for your study, an English language version should be uploaded as a supplementary file and cited within the main text. If the questionnaire, survey and/or interview guide is standard, or has previously been published elsewhere, please provide the references or links to it.
If you supply any of these as supplementary files, please amend the main text accordingly and we would appreciate if you add a section ‘Supplementary files’ after the References, where you list the following information about your supplementary material:
- File name (e.g. Supplementary file 1)
- Title of data (e.g. Figure 1)
- Description of data
R: Unfortunately, the questionnaire used in the national survey of oral health conditions in Brazil was not translated for English.

5. Form of consent to participate
While you have stated that “Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in this study.” this is insufficient.
In the section 'Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate', please state whether the informed consent obtained was written or verbal.
If consent was verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.
R: Informed consent was obtained in writing. This information was added accordingly.

6. Availability of data and materials: Please include further detail in the Availability of data and materials section of your manuscript in regard to who should be contacted and their contact details to obtain access to the raw data.
R: The requested information was added in the Availability of data and materials section.

7. Acknowledgements: Please do not include any funding information in your Acknowledgements. Please move any funding information to the Funding section of your manuscript, where applicable.
R: The Acknowledgements was removed from the manuscript because the funding information that was previously mentioned was wrong.

8. Figure 2: Please amend the legend “Figure 3: Adjusted predicted…” to “Figure 2: Adjusted predicted…”.
Thank you. The number of the figure was corrected.
9. Overlap: We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works. This overlap exists throughout your manuscript. While we understand that you may wish to press some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. 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. In regards to overlap in the Methods section, please ensure to summarize the methods and cite the source. We recommend that you use an anti-plagiarism software, such as turnitin or other freely available ones, to assess any overlap and reduce it.

R: We used the Turnitin and Plagium software to identify the overlap of the words and expressions. We found some overlap words and expressions and we reformulated the text. We apologize for that. The highest proportion of overlap was observed regarding the pre-print version of this manuscript. Some other expressions were similar to the original cited papers and were reformulated. If any overlap persists and has not been identified by us, I would like to ask the editors to send us the report of the search results by overlap and to allow us to revise the text again.

Thank you. We hope that our revised manuscript is suitable for publication in BMC Oral Health.