Author’s response to reviews

Title: The effects of occupational pollutants on the reproductive health of female informal street traders in Warwick Junction, Durban, South Africa – a cross-sectional study

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Version: 1 Date: 04 Sep 2019

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REVISION OF MANUSCRIPT

Abstract:
Line 32 (abstract) : “in” should be deleted
Line 19 (abstract) “in” has been deleted.

Line 40: this sentence is too generic to be a conclusion for the abstract. Please refer it to the study population.
Line 25-27: addresses this comment and makes mention of the study sample

Background:
Line 26 (page 5): citations needed.
Line 17-18 (page 5): citations listed

Line 6-16 (page 6): this paragraph should be connected with the ones in the discussion section that describes the results of the same papers cited [8;13]
Line 7-13 (page 13): comprehensive summary of study combined
Line 36-41 (page 13): combines information on study

Methods
Line 2 (page 7): the authors should explain the exclusion criteria (if any).
Line 30-32 (page 6): this explains the inclusion criteria. There was no exclusion criteria except for retired traders and men (which is explained in the inclusion criteria)

A more accurate description of pollutants to be found in exposed cohort should be added.
Line 15-19 (page 9): explains the type of fuels used by street traders.
Discussion
The discussion needs to be expanded. A more accurate description of pollutants is needed. I suggest the authors to discuss the findings written in those research articles:
- Simonelli A et al 2017 (doi 10.1007/s00420-016-1171-1. PMID: 27718009)
- Blum JL et al 2017 (doi: 10.1289/EHP1029. PMID: 28893721)

Line 30-35 (page 13): I have incorporated lit review of the study listed. However in my study a limitation exists as the traders are always changing spots of trading and moving between trading areas during their day (as explained page 14 (line 11-13)), so exact personal sampling and differentiation of exposures posed a challenge. However I have attempted to classify the fuels used (wood, coal).