Author’s response to reviews

Title: Herbal or traditional medicine consumption in a Thai worker population: pattern of use and therapeutic control in chronic diseases.

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editors

Thank you for the review of our manuscript "Herbal or traditional medicine consumption in a Thai worker population: pattern of use and therapeutic control in chronic diseases." (BCAM-D-18-00032R1).

Here are the point by point responses to the comments made:

Agnete Kristoffersen (Associate Editor) comments:

1. Background

Page 4, line 34 there seems to be a misplaced full stop “medical community. [4] and evidence based…”

Response: This has been amended.
Methods

2. Please provide the Ethics committee’s reference number

Response: ID-05-51-19. This has been added to the text.

3. Please add a flow chart to the paper and report the response rate of the study [in the flow chart and in the main text]

Response

A new figure 1 has been added to show the recruitment and response rate of the questionnaire in study. Text has been added to show questionnaire response rate for HTM (Yes/No) and for self-reported conditions

The following text (underlined) has been added in Results section

On page 7

After exclusion of participants (n=204) who did not respond to the HTM use question, a total of 6592 subjects (4810 males and 1782 females) or 97% of those originally recruited were included in the study. (Figure 1) Overall, age was 53 ± 11.3 years, 12.2% were diabetic and 40.2% were hypertensive.

On page 8

HTM consumption and self-reported chronic diseases

Of all 6592 subjects included, the numbers of subjects who responded to questions on presence or absence of specific chronic diseases by checking a box on the questionnaire were: hypertension (n= 6425, 97%), dyslipidemia (n= 6310, 96%) liver disease (n=6338, 96%), diabetes (n=6488, 98%), pre-existing CVD (n=6592, 100%) and cancer (n=6592, 100%). (Figure 1)

Fang-Pey Chen (Reviewer 2):

Comment:

The author has carefully revised this manuscript. I hope the publication will be soon in the near future. But, on page 15 conclusions, the NCD did not change to chronic yet. Please correct them.
Response: This has been corrected

Thank you for your kind consideration of our manuscript

Best regards