

**Subject:** BMJ - Decision on Manuscript ID BMJ.2018.045335.R1

**Body:** 09-Sep-2018

Dear Dr. Kan

Manuscript ID BMJ.2018.045335.R1 entitled "Mortality risk and burden associated with ambient temperature: time-series study in 272 Chinese cities"

Thank you for sending us your paper. We sent it for external peer review again.

We hope very much that you will be willing and able to revise your paper as explained below in the reviewer's comments, so that we will be able to reach a final decision.

Yours sincerely,

Tiago Villanueva  
tvillanueva@bmj.com

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: This is a two-step process. After clicking on the link, you will be directed to a webpage to confirm. \*\*\*

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\*\* Comments from the external peer reviewers\*\*

Reviewer: 1

Recommendation:

Comments:

The authors have responded to my comments very well. I don't have further comments.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Yuming Guo

Job Title: Associate Professor

Institution: Monash University

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?:

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

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Reviewer: 2

Recommendation:

Comments:

The authors responded to all comments and suggestions that I have raised previously and revised the manuscript accordingly. I appreciate the authors for providing ample evidence and additional data, including multivariate meta-regression, detailed description of MMT, and some sensitivity analyses to clarify the robustness of the model. I will be pleased to see this paper published.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Chun-Quan Ou

Job Title: Prof.

Institution: Southern Medical University

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

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Reviewer: 3

Recommendation:

Comments:

The authors have adjusted their manuscript to reply to the reviewers' comments. There are a couple of very minor points that I believe need addressing, which would help with the interpretation of the paper:

1) The causes of death analysed are in some cases subsets of each other. However currently it is not clear which are subsets of which. This is important when aiming to understand total numbers (as they appear in the first paragraph of the Results) as well as Tables (Tables 1 and 2 for example). Please can these results be adjusted to reflect which of these causes of death are subset of which. I am also assuming that there are single causes of death (instead of one individual having multiple). In any case, please clarify this in the text and adjust throughout the manuscript.

2) The term MMP is used in the text but is only defined in Table 2. Please define in the text at the first time it is used.

Otherwise, I think the authors have done a very good job presenting their results.

Additional Questions:

Please enter your name: Rafael Perera

Job Title: Professor of Medical Statistics

Institution: University of Oxford

Reimbursement for attending a symposium?: No

A fee for speaking?: No

A fee for organising education?: No

Funds for research?: No

Funds for a member of staff?: No

Fees for consulting?: No

Have you in the past five years been employed by an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper?: No

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