

## **1 MANUSCRIPT REVISION DEADLINE**

We request that you submit your revision in no more than **14 days**. **Please note that you have only two chances for revising the manuscript.**

**Response:** Thank you, we are submitting the revised version of our manuscript within the set timeframe.

## **2 PLEASE SELECT TO REVISE THIS MANUSCRIPT OR NOT**

Please login to the F6Publishing system at <https://www.f6publishing.com> by entering your registered E-mail and password. After clicking on the "Author Login" button, please click on "Manuscripts Needing Revision" under the "Revisions" heading to find your manuscript that needs revision. Clicking on the "Handle" button allows you to choose to revise this manuscript or not. If you choose not to revise your manuscript, please click on the "Decline" button, and the manuscript will be WITHDRAWN.

**Response:** Thank you, we have carefully revised our manuscript.

## **3 SCIENTIFIC QUALITY**

Please resolve all issues in the manuscript based on the peer review report and make a point-by-point response to each of the issues raised in the peer review report. Note, authors must resolve all issues in the manuscript that are raised in the peer-review report(s) and provide point-by-point responses to each of the issues raised in the peer-review report(s); these are listed below for your convenience:

**Response:** Authors are thankful to the Editors and the Reviewers for their careful reading of our manuscript. Their helpful comments have helped us improve our manuscript.

Reviewer #1:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade B (Very good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Minor revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** See attachment.

**Response:** We would like to thank the Reviewer for their very useful comments. English language was improved. We provide below the answers to Your specific comments provided in attachment.

**Comment 1:** Either delete this sentence or provide information on the estimated total population in South-East Asia in 2019 (because the regions of the world do not have populations of the same size).

**Answer:** Correction was made and this sentence was deleted.

**Comment 2:** "rates".

**Answer:** Done.

**Comment 3:** "Average annual percent change (AAPC)".

**Answer:** Correction was made and keywords were revised.

**Comment 4:** "the".

**Answer:** Done.

**Comment 5:** "and".

**Answer:** Correction was made.

**Comment 6:** The word "including" fits better

**Answer:** Correction was made and words "overlapping with" were replaced with "including".

**Comment 7:** What is the estimated population in the analyzed countries? These data are needed in order to make more accurate comparisons between e.g. 2000 and 2015 (in the latter year, the world population was probably greater than in 2000 and 742,962 is even lower when taking into account population growth in the period of 15 years).

**Answer:** Thank you very much for this comment. You are completely right. But, we would like to emphasize that we have not once stated for Figure 1 that something is greater or something is lower, but we have rather just stated the given numbers as counts with the aim of description. Once again, we would like to point out that we have not mentioned a comparison of what is bigger and what is smaller, because for the purpose of comparison we have used rates and that is age-standardized rates, which is the only allowed approach for comparison and estimation of trends, that is – for analytical statistics.

**Comment 8:** "by suicide".

**Answer:** Done.

**Comment 9:** "in 2019".

**Answer:** Done.

**Comment 10:** "an explanation of this trend could be".

**Answer:** Correction was made.

**Comment 11:** "which usually result".

**Answer:** Done.

**Comment 12:** Please add "especially" or "particularly" because the subsequent variables are due to socio-economic instability (and are not separated from it).

**Answer:** Thank you. Correction was made.

**Comment 13:** "and".

**Answer:** Done.

**Comment 14:** "and".

**Answer:** Done.

**Comment 15:** could (However, the pandemic situation is a significant social, economic, and medical factor that could weaken the power of such a generalization from 2019 onwards).

**Answer:** We have inserted the word "could" instead of "can". Thank you for this valuable comment. However, we would like to point out that the analysis in our paper refers to the period to 2019 (2000-2019), i.e. before the pandemic. We agree with the Reviewer's comment that the question of the impact that the COVID-19

pandemic will have on social, economic and medical factors is important, however that should be the scope of the analysis of some future paper which will include the time of the pandemic, from 2020 onward.

**Comment 16:** “could be”.

**Answer:** Done.

Reviewer #2:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade B (Very good)

**Language Quality:** Grade A (Priority publishing)

**Conclusion:** Accept (General priority)

**Specific Comments to Authors:** Hoping for more success.

**Response:** We are very thankful to the Reviewer for taking the time and effort to carefully read our manuscript.

#### **4 LANGUAGE POLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR REVISED MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED BY AUTHORS WHO ARE NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH**

As the revision process results in changes to the content of the manuscript, language problems may exist in the revised manuscript. Thus, it is necessary to perform further language polishing that will ensure all grammatical, syntactical, formatting and other related errors be resolved, so that the revised manuscript will meet the publication requirement (Grade A).

**Authors are requested to send their revised manuscript to a professional English language editing company or a native English-speaking expert to polish the manuscript further. When the authors submit the subsequent polished manuscript to us, they must provide a new language certificate along with the manuscript.**

Once this step is completed, the manuscript will be quickly accepted and published online. Please visit the following website for the professional English language editing companies we recommend: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/240>.

**Response:** Our revised manuscript checked for clarity by a colleague whose native language is English and English language of the manuscript was polished.

#### **5 ABBREVIATIONS**

In general, do not use non-standard abbreviations, unless they appear at least two times in the text preceding the first usage/ definition. Certain commonly used abbreviations, such as DNA, RNA, HIV, LD50, PCR, HBV, ECG, WBC, RBC, CT, ESR, CSF, IgG, ELISA, PBS, ATP, EDTA, and mAb, do not need to be defined and can be used directly.

The basic rules on abbreviations are provided here:

**(1) Title:** Abbreviations are not permitted. Please spell out any abbreviation in the title.

**(2) Running title:** Abbreviations are permitted. Also, please shorten the running title to no more than 6 words.

- (3) Abstract:** Abbreviations must be defined upon first appearance in the Abstract. Example 1: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Example 2: *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*).
- (4) Key Words:** Abbreviations must be defined upon first appearance in the Key Words.
- (5) Core Tip:** Abbreviations must be defined upon first appearance in the Core Tip. Example 1: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Example 2: *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*)
- (6) Main Text:** Abbreviations must be defined upon first appearance in the Main Text. Example 1: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Example 2: *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*)
- (7) Article Highlights:** Abbreviations must be defined upon first appearance in the Article Highlights. Example 1: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Example 2: *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*)
- (8) Figures:** Abbreviations are not allowed in the Figure title. For the Figure Legend text, abbreviations are allowed but must be defined upon first appearance in the text. Example 1: A: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) biopsy sample; B: HCC-adjacent tissue sample. For any abbreviation that appears in the Figure itself but is not included in the Figure Legend textual description, it will be defined (separated by semicolons) at the end of the figure legend. Example 2: BMI: Body mass index; US: Ultrasound.
- (9) Tables:** Abbreviations are not allowed in the Table title. For the Table itself, please verify all abbreviations used in tables are defined (separated by semicolons) directly underneath the table. Example 1: BMI: Body mass index; US: Ultrasound.

## 6 EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS

Authors must revise the manuscript according to the Editorial Office's comments and suggestions, which are listed below:

### **(1) Science editor:**

This study aims to assess the global, regional and national trends of suicidal mortality. The manuscript is well-written, and presents informative results. Statistical methods are accurate. One reviewer raised some minor issues, which should be considered and addressed by the authors. The academic editor recommends acceptance after minor revision.

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)

**Response:** We would like to thank the Science Editor for their thorough reading of our manuscript. We have considered and addressed all of the comments raised by the reviewer, as outlined above in our point-by-point response, and we have polished the English language of the manuscript.

### **(2) Company editor-in-chief:**

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Psychiatry, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-

Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Please provide decomposable Figures (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file. Please authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content.

**Response:** We would like to thank the Company Editor-in-Chief for carefully reviewing our manuscript and relevant documents. We have revised the manuscript according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision. Also, we are providing decomposable Figures which we organized into a single PowerPoint file. Additionally, we have checked the Tables.

## 7 STEPS FOR SUBMITTING THE REVISED MANUSCRIPT

### **Step 1:** Author Information

Please click and download the [Format for authorship, institution, and corresponding author guidelines](#), and further check if the authors names and institutions meet the requirements of the journal.

### **Step 2:** Manuscript Information

Please check if the manuscript information is correct.

### **Step 3:** Abstract, Main Text, and Acknowledgements

**(1) Guidelines for revising the content:** Please download the guidelines for Original articles, Review articles, or Case Report articles for your specific manuscript type (Observational Study) at: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/291>. Please further revise the content your manuscript according to the Guidelines and Requirements for Manuscript Revision.

**(2) Format for Manuscript Revision:** Please update the format of your manuscript according to the Guidelines and Requirements for Manuscript Revision and the Format for Manuscript Revision. Please visit <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/GerInfo/291> for the article type-specific guidelines and formatting examples.

**(3) Requirements for Article Highlights:** If your manuscript is an Original Study (Basic Study or Clinical Study), Meta-Analysis, or Systemic Review, the "Article Highlights" section is required. Detailed writing requirements for the "Article Highlights" can be found in the Guidelines and Requirements for Manuscript Revision.

**(4) Common issues in revised manuscript.** Please click and download the [List of common issues in revised manuscripts by authors and comments](#) (PDF), and revise the manuscript accordingly.

### **Step 4:** References

Please revise the references according to the [Format for References Guidelines](#), and be sure to edit the reference using the reference auto-analyser.

**Reminder:** It is unacceptable to have more than 3 references from the same journal. To resolve this issue and move forward in the peer-review/publication process, please revise your reference list accordingly.

**Step 5: Footnotes and Figure Legends**

**(1) Requirements for Figures:** Please provide decomposable Figures (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file, and submit as “70978-Figures.pptx” on the system. The figures should be uploaded to the file destination of “Image File”.

**(2) Requirements for Tables:** Please provide decomposable Tables (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single Word file, and submit as “70978-Tables.docx” on the system. The tables should be uploaded to the file destination of “Table File”.

**Reminder:** Please click and download the [Guidelines for preparation of bitmaps, vector graphics, and tables in revised manuscripts](#) (PDF), and prepare the figures and tables of your manuscript accordingly.

**Step 6: Automatically Generate Full-Text Files**

Authors cannot replace and upload the “Manuscript File” separately. Since we only accept a manuscript file that is automatically generated, please download the “Full Text File” or click “Preview” to ensure all the contents of the manuscript automatically generated by the system are correct and meet the requirements of the journal. If you find that there is content that needs to be modified in the Full-Text File, please return to the corresponding step(s), modify and update the content, and save. At this point, you then have to click the “Save & Continue” button in Step 5 and the F6Publishing system will automatically regenerate the Full-Text File, and it will be automatically stored.

**Step 7: Upload the Revision Files**

For all required accompanying documents (listed below), you can begin the uploading process *via* the F6Publishing system. Then, please download all the uploaded documents to ensure all of them are correct.

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- (2) 70978-Audio Core Tip
- (3) 70978-Biostatistics Review Certificate
- (4) 70978-Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form
- (5) 70978-Copyright License Agreement
- (6) 70978-Approved Grant Application Form(s) or Funding Agency Copy of any Approval Document(s)
- (7) 70978-Signed Informed Consent Form(s) or Document(s)
- (8) 70978-Institutional Review Board Approval Form or Document
- (9) 70978-Non-Native Speakers of English Editing Certificate
- (10) 70978-Video
- (11) 70978-Image File
- (12) 70978-Table File
- (13) 70978-STROBE Statement
- (14) 70978-Supplementary Material

If your manuscript has supportive foundations, the approved grant application form(s) or funding agency copy of any approval document(s) must be provided. Otherwise, we will delete the supportive foundations.

If your manuscript has no “Video” or “Supplementary Material”, you do not need to submit those two types of documents.

**Response:** The manuscript has been revised according to the STEPS FOR SUBMITTING REVISED MANUSCRIPT and relevant accompanying documents have been prepared and uploaded.

## **8 COPYRIGHT LICENSE AGREEMENT**

All authors should accept and sign the Copyright License Agreement (CLA), following the link sent in individual emails to each author. After all authors have accepted and signed their respective CLA, the Corresponding Author is responsible for downloading the signed CLA by clicking on the “Download” button in the CLA page, re-storing it as “PDF”, and then uploading it to the file destination of “Copyright License Agreement”. If any of the authors do not accept to sign the CLA, the manuscript will not be accepted for publication.

**Response:** The Copyright License Agreement Form has been signed by all authors and uploaded.

## **9 CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM**

Please click and download the fillable [ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest](#) (PDF), and fill it in. The Corresponding Author is responsible for filling out this form. Once filled out completely, the Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form should be uploaded to the file destination of ‘Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure Form’.

**Response:** The ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest was filled completely and uploaded.

We thank the Editors and the Reviewers for their careful reading of our manuscript and the opportunity to revise our manuscript according to their very helpful comments.

We hope that those sentences are the answers to your comments. Again, we appreciate all of your valuable comments, kind suggestions and detailed advice. Thank you for taking the time and energy to help us improve the manuscript.