

AUTHORS' REPLY

Dear Sir,

We thank the reader for the interest shown in the article. Most are personal opinions on how the article could have been written. The reader has also requested for much more data than the authors planned for this article which focuses on psychiatric morbidity in patients.

The original submission did provide confidence intervals and p-values but these were removed on the advice of the journal reviewer. The statement on the statistical analyses was inadvertently left in. All patients were carefully assessed through history, mental state and physical examination and if there was any history to suggest obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome, they would have been appropriately referred.

The 2004 National Health Survey showed that the percentage of adults with high blood pressure was 20.1% and we did not consider our levels much higher.⁽¹⁾ Finally, there should not be any confusion regarding diagnosis of generalised anxiety disorder (point 2) as paragraph 2 refers to the primary psychiatric disorder and paragraph 3 refers to a comorbid Axis I disorder.

Yours sincerely,

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REFERENCE

1. Ministry of Health, Singapore. National Health Survey 2004. Available at: www.moh.gov.sg/corp/hottopics/NationalHealthSurvey/index.do#31457518. Accessed March 6, 2007.