

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Authors' response to letter to the editor, letter to the editor: Authors' response to letter to the editor: Safety concerns with human papilloma virus immunization in Japan: Analysis and evaluation of Nagoya City's surveillance data for adverse events

See articles in *Japan Journal of Nursing Science*

DOI: 10.1111/jjns.12309

Letter to the Editor: Authors' response to letter to the Editor: Safety concerns with human papilloma virus immunization in Japan: Analysis and evaluation of Nagoya City's surveillance data for adverse events

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DOI: 10.1111/jjns.12312

Editor's Reply to the Letter to the Editor of Dr. Suzuki

William L. Holzemer

We have read carefully a Letter to the Editor from Dr. Suzuki (Suzuki, 2019) on our Authors' response (Yaju & Tsubaki, 2019). First of all, we would like to confirm that the Editor-in-Chief has already explained the conflicts of interest (COI) disclosure and clearly mentioned as follows in the Editor's reply (Holzemer, 2019): "Dr. Yaju has disclosed that she is a member of Medwatcher Japan, an NGO that monitors and prevents drug-induced disasters. However, this part of the disclosure was not included because the current COI disclosure policy of the Japan Academy of Nursing Science (JANS) tends to limit the written disclosure to financial conflicts of interest." Further, we would like to emphasize that Yaju stated she is a member of Medwatcher Japan in the form for disclosure of potential COI at the manuscript submission.


Dr. Suzuki commented again on "study period" and "interaction issues" in the letter. In this regard, we believe that we have already discussed exhaustively in our previous response (Yaju & Tsubaki, 2019) and we have nothing to add to our previous comments at this time. That is because Dr. Suzuki has raised no new evidence to support his statistical arguments in the letter. We are afraid that Dr. Suzuki does not see our points. Further, as we mentioned in our previous response, Dr. Shitara and Dr. Morikawa (2018) have raised crucial

questions regarding the interaction issues in their poster presentation at the 2018 Conference of the Japanese Society for Pharmacoepidemiology held on October 13–14, 2018. They stated that the results of age-adjusted logistic regression analyses might be misleading unless we consider the interaction effect between vaccination and age on symptoms experience. It would be appreciated if Dr. Suzuki could read our previous letter again and refer to the conference proceedings, especially for the interaction issues.

Additionally, we would like to raise an issue concerning the acceptance of the Letter to the Editor from Dr. Suzuki, addressing and bringing up the same points using similar arguments, discussed in the previous letters. We cannot understand the technical reason the Editor-in-Chief has decided to publish Dr. Suzuki's letter again.

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