Dear Editors and Reviewers,

On behalf of all my coauthors, we thank you very much for giving us an opportunity to revise our manuscript (“Seasonal and monthly patterns, weekly variations and the holiday effect of type 2 diabetes mellitus outpatient visits in China” to International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health) to address Reviewer 3’s further comment. We have studied the comment carefully, making revisions marked in red in the paper. Attached please find the revised version.

The correction in response to Reviewer 3 is as follows:

Reviewer 3

Question:
The authors answered most my concerns. But, before the discussion of seasonal or temperature effect, the holiday effect (especially the Spring Festival) should be excluded or adjusted. The observed seasonal effect might contribute from the holiday effect.

Answer:
Completed. Please see page 6, line 203-7. We added “In terms of seasonal patterns, it should be pointed out that the low seasonal index in winter is intertwined with the holiday effect, especially the Spring Festival effect. Due to this relationship, there is no uniform way to deal with the Spring Festival effect in our econometric model, which means our results need careful interpretation. The treatment of the Spring Festival effect was accounted the same weight as other holidays”.

Prof. Jian Wang
Dong Fureng Institute of Economic and Social Development
Wuhan University
Telephone: +86-010-63342936
Fax: +86-010-65270301
We have improved the manuscript according to the Reviewer 3’s comments

Sincerely yours,

Jian Wang, Professor
Dong Fureng Institute of
Economic and Social
Development
Wuhan University