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**Majid Ezzati** FMedSci  
Professor of Global Environmental Health  
Director, Wellcome Trust-Imperial Centre for Global  
Health Research  
Director, WHO Collaborating Centre on NCD  
Surveillance and Epidemiology

Dr. Bronwyn Wake  
Chief Editor, *Nature Climate Change*

Dear Dr. Wake:

On behalf of my co-authors, I would like to submit our paper titled "Anomalous temperature and injury mortality in the USA: age-, sex- and injury-specific impacts" for consideration in *Nature Climate Change*.

The paper makes novel and important contributions to our understanding of how anomalous temperatures, which are expected to be more frequent as the global climate changes, affect deaths from different injuries, and to the methodologies for studying such impacts.

Injuries have been a particularly under-investigated outcome in terms of the potential health effects of climate change, especially in terms of detailed impacts from different injuries, and at different ages. We use geo-coded data on all injury deaths in the USA since 1985 matched to data on temperature, and develop a novel spatio-temporal method to analyse how anomalous temperatures affect deaths from five different types of intentional and unintentional injuries, by age group and sex.

The findings show how rising temperatures may affect an important cause of death in young adults, and can help select environmental and health system interventions to reduce such impacts. Our methodology for studying these impacts, which more closely simulates the situation expected under a changing climate, can also be applied to other outcomes. Therefore, the paper will be of interest to scientists and policy makers in a range of disciplines with interest in both human consequences of global environmental change.

I confirm that this paper has not been published nor is under consideration elsewhere. The main paper, excluding the opening paragraph, is ~1,700 words, and has five figures, with additional details presented in Supplementary Figures and Tables. The Methods section is about 1,300 words. We would of course be happy to take guidance from the Editors to adjust the manuscript length and organisation as needed.

The following independent people are qualified to review this paper:

1) Professor Patrick Kinney (environmental health; climate change health effects)  
Boston University

E-mail: pkinney@bu.edu

2) Professor C Arden Pope (environmental health; statistical methods)  
Brigham Young University  
E-mail: cap3@byu.edu

3) Professor Kavi Bhalla (injury epidemiology; injury prevention and policies)  
University of Chicago  
E-mail: kavibhalla@uchicago.edu

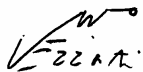
4) Professor Julian Marshall (environmental health; climate change health effects)  
University of Washington  
E-mail: jdmarsh@uw.edu

5) Professor Deborah Balk (spatial demography and population health; human/social dimensions of climate change)  
City University of New York  
E-mail: Deborah.Balk@baruch.cuny.edu

6) Professor Peter Diggle (spatial statistics; environmental health)  
University of Lancaster  
E-mail: p.diggle@lancaster.ac.uk

We look forward to your response and would be happy to answer any questions that you may have on this paper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Majid Ezzati', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Majid Ezzati