Dear Editor,

Please find attached an article entitled “Prevalence of anal incontinence among Norwegian women, a cross-sectional study” by Kathrine Rømmen, Berit Schei, Astrid Rydning, Abdul H. Sultan and Siv Mørkved for consideration for publication in your journal.

The data included in this manuscript are not under consideration by any other journal. Some of the data has been presented at one international conferences, as podium presentation at the 41st Annual Meeting of the International Continence Society, August 29 – September 2, 2011, Glasgow, Scotland. All authors have read and approved the final version of the manuscript. None of the authors have a conflict of interest.

Author contributions:
Berit Schei (BS), Astrid Rydning (AR) and Siv Mørkved (SM) drafted the original project protocol. Kathrine Rømmen conducted the analysis and drafted the manuscript. BS, AR, SM and Abdul Sultan contributed to the analysis and interpretation of data, and critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content.

Ethical approval
All participants in the HUNT 3 study have given an informed written consent to the use of the data. The study was approved by the Regional Committee for Medical and Health Research Ethics (No. 2009/1214) and followed the Declaration of Helsinki.
The primary outcomes in the study were prevalence of anal incontinence and fecal incontinence.

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On behalf of all authors

Kathrine Rømmen