Author's response to reviews

Title: Factors associated with poor prognosis among patients admitted with heart failure in a Nigerian tertiary medical centre: a cross-sectional study

Authors:

Kamilu M Karaye (kkaraye@yahoo.co.uk)
Mahmoud U Sani (sanimahmoud@yahoo.com)

Version: 3 Date: 18 May 2008

Author's response to reviews:

The Editor-in-Chief
Biomed Central Journal

Dear Sir

RE: Manuscript MS: 1106808486182148

Thank you for considering our manuscript for possible publication in your reputable Journal. In response to the suggestions by the reviewers, we have effected corrections in the manuscript as follows:

1. The style of written English was reviewed, and British style of English was adopted.
2. Abbreviations were avoided as much as possible throughout the manuscript.
3. The title of the manuscript has been changed to “Factors associated with poor prognosis among patients admitted with heart failure in a Nigerian tertiary medical centre: a cross-sectional study”. This is in response to the comment (#3) by Dr C Torp-Pedersen.
4. The abstract was rewritten because the manuscript was overhauled.
5. Introduction chapter: the last paragraph was rewritten to accommodate the suggestions by both reviewers on the need to discuss in more detail the aetiology of heart failure.
6. Methods and patients: information on hyponatraemia, tachycardia and hypotension was dropped, in response to comments by Dr C Torp-Pedersen. We agree that these prognostic factors can be influenced by the effects of routine treatment for heart failure. We resolved that it will be better if we leave them out and present data on the others. In this chapter, paragraphs 1, 3, 5 and 6 were rewritten to accommodate the changes outlined.
7. The chapters on results, discussion and conclusion were overhauled, to accommodate the suggestions of the 2 reviewers. In addition, the sample size of the study was discussed as a limitation.
8. The sections on competing interests, authors' contributions and acknowledgement were not altered.
9. All the suggestions of the reviewers were therefore addressed. We sincerely appreciate the useful criticisms by the reviewers. We hope the manuscript is now suitable for publication in your reputable Journal.

Sincerely,

Dr KM Karaye

(Author for all correspondence)