Author's response to reviews

Title: Risk Stratification of Adult Emergency Department Syncope Patients to Predict Short-Term Adverse Events after Discharge (RiSEDS) Study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Cornacchia:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our manuscript for submission to BMC Emergency Medicine. As per your request, we have answered the following concerns you had.

1. Ethical and Funding Approval Documentation
Before we can proceed with your submission, can you please forward copies of all ethical approval and funding approval for our records. These documents should be sent as email attachments to the following email address, BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com. Please DO NOT upload these documents as additional files in the submission system. If your documents are not in English, please could you provide translated versions of the relevant parts. These should be endorsed and signed by a contactable person at the institution. Please also include the original documents. Can you please confirm in your cover letter that you have forwarded the requested documentation to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com. Ethical documentation is obtained and the study is on-going.

2. Funding
A study is considered to be externally funded if the authors have been awarded a grant for the study by a major funding body (e.g. governmental funding/ award from a charitable foundation). If a study has not received external funding, then the study protocol will be sent for peer-review with a member of our Editorial Board. If a study has received funding/assistance from a commercial organization, this should be clearly stated in the ‘competing interests’ section of your manuscript, and the study protocol will be sent for peer-review by a member of our Editorial Board. Can you please confirm whether your study protocol has undergone peer-review by the funding body. The study has undergone peer-review by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

3. Study status
The protocol must be for a study that is ongoing. An ‘ongoing’ study is defined as one where the investigators are still collecting, or analyzing data. Can you please confirm what stage your study is currently at. The study is ongoing.
4. Related Articles
Can you please clarify whether any publications containing the results of this study have already been published or submitted to any journal. If so, can you please provide a list of the related articles. There are no related articles containing the results.

Many thanks for your submission to BMC Emergency Medicine. As this manuscript presents the plan for your study rather than the results and analysis we would not be able to consider as a research article but would be willing to consider as a study protocol (http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcemergmed/authors/instructions/studyprotocol). Please let us know if you are willing to proceed in this or have any questions or concerns. Yes, please proceed as a study protocol.

I would also like to confirm that we have forwarded the requested documentation to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

Thank you very much for your consideration. We look forward to your review.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

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