Author's response to reviews

Title: Testing the treatment effect on competing causes of death in oncology clinical trials

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Villejuif, December 5, 2013

To: Arlene Pura – Journal Editorial Office, BioMed Central

RE: Manuscript 2492149071144517

Dear Arlene Pura,

In our manuscript “Testing the treatment effect on competing causes of death in oncology clinical trials” we report some results of a secondary analysis of the IALT trial (whose primary results were published in NEJM 2004). The patient enrollment in this trial began in 1995, when no trial registration procedure existed, so the IALT has no registration number.

Concerning the accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki, we added the following paragraph at the bottom of the section Methods, page 6: “Local ethics committees approved the protocol according to the legal regulations in each participating country. When the study began in 1995, informed consent was obtained from each patient according to the regulations of the participating country; in 1999, all participants were required to give written informed consent”.

Please, do not hesitate to contact me in case you would need any further information regarding this submission.

Yours sincerely,

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