Author's response to reviews

Title: Bayes rules for optimally using Bayesian hierarchical regression models in provider profiling to identify high-mortality hospitals

Authors:

    Peter C Austin (peter.austin@ices.on.ca)

Version: 4 Date: 5 May 2008

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

re: **Bayes rules for optimally using Bayesian hierarchical regression models in provider profiling to identify high-mortality hospitals** by Peter C Austin.

I would like to thank you for accepting in principle the above-noted manuscript for publication in *BMC Medical Research Methodology*. The following formatting changes have been made in accordance with the editorial office’s instructions:

- **Author footnotes:** Authors have been linked to affiliations using superscript format.
- **Section numbers:** have been removed.
- **Figures:** No changes were made. When I examined the online version of the figures (as well as the versions that I uploaded), the figures were complete. No material from the right was cut off from the figures.

All correspondence should be sent to Dr. Peter Austin, Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, G-160, 2075 Bayview Ave., Toronto, ON, M4N 3M5, Canada. My e-mail address is peter.austin@ices.on.ca. My telephone number is (416) 480-6131, and my fax number is (416) 480-6048.

Sincerely yours,

Peter C Austin, Ph.D.
Senior Scientist