Author's response to reviews

Title: An observational descriptive study of the epidemiology, treatment and trends in neuropathic pain in a UK general population

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This paper describes the third estimation (since 1995) of the incidence and treatment of certain neuropathic pain conditions in UK primary care completed by the authors. We had assumed that validation of diagnosis in previous studies would still be relevant in this series (2006-2010). The results of work since first submission have suggested that changes in treatment patterns and practice have resulted in an over-estimation of one of the incidences, painful diabetic neuropathy. Following a validation exercise, we changed one identification algorithm. This improved sensitivity but not to a high enough standard. The validation results have been added to the paper and the article reworded to indicate that this cohort is painful neuropathy in diabetes rather than solely painful diabetic neuropathy. The changes are tracked on the resubmission.