Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of HPV infection among Greek women attending a gynecological outpatient clinic.

Authors:

Petroula Stamatakis (stamatakip@yahoo.gr)
Athanasia Papazafiropoulou (pathan@ath.forthnet.gr)
Ioannis Elefsiniotis (jielefs@acn.gr)
Margarita Giannakopoulou (mgiannak@nurs.uoa.gr)
Hero Brokalaki (heropan@nurs.uoa.gr)
Eleni Apostolopoulou (eapostol@nurs.uoa.gr)
Pavlos Sarafis (psarafis@softhome.net)
George Saroglou (gs200744@otenet.gr)

Version: 4 Date: 5 October 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
Replies to the Associate Editor comments

We would like to thank the Associate Editor for the comments. Our replies are:

**Point 1.** Table 1 and 2 are contradictory as regards the association between income and HPV. In table 1 a lower income is associated with a higher risk of HPV, while the text and table 2 are suggesting that a lower income is protective. I feel that table 1 is right. The authors have to check the whole manuscript.

Answer: Thank you for your comment. As you have mentioned table 1 is correct. Therefore, table 2 as well as the manuscript have been revised.

**Point 2.** More importantly, I am puzzled by the fact that 78% of women with a previous HPV infection were found in the HPV negative subsample. The authors should add at least a comment in the discussion on this surprising result, and describe how these patients were handled in the analysis.

Answer: The corrected percentage of women with a previous HPV infection in the HPV negative subsample is 21.8% (by mistake was recorded 78%). This is now stated in the text.