Author's response to reviews

Title: C-reactive protein serum levels as an early predictor of outcome in patients with pandemic H1N1 influenza A virus infection

Authors:

Ofer Zimmerman (ofierzim@gmail.com)
Ori Rogowski (orir@tasmc.health.gov.il)
Galit Aviram (aviramgalit@hotmail.com)
Michal Mizrahi (michal_miz@hotmail.com)
David Zeltser (davidz@tasmc.health.gov.il)
Dan Justo (danj@tasmc.health.gov.il)
Esther Dahan (estherda@gmail.com)
Roy Arad (aradroy@yahoo.com)
Oholi Touvia (toholi@gmail.com)
Luba Tau (lubatau@gmail.com)
Jalal Tarabeia (jalalt@tasmc.health.gov.il)
Shlomo Berliner (Berliners@tasmc.health.gov.il)
Yael Paran (yaelp@tasmc.health.gov.il)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We were pleased to hear that our manuscript titled: “C-reactive protein serum levels as an early predictor of outcome in patients with pandemic H1N1 Influenza A virus Infection” has now, in principle, been accepted for publication.

We have performed all the necessary changes as suggested by the editor. Below is a list of the comments with our answers written in red. Attached please find our revised manuscript, where you will note that all changes have been entered using the Track Changes tool.

We hope that you will find our changes satisfactory.

Sincerely,

Ofer Zimmerman, M.D.
Associate Editor's comments:

I can suggest the authors to indicate in the statistical paragraph - how they calculated the Area under the ROC curve (at least to provide a reference since there are several methods).

As suggested, we included the relevant reference in the statistical paragraph.

If they checked the proportional hazard hypothesis in their Cox Model and I would suggest to move the paragraph related to ROC analysis in the results section (page 11, lines 11 "The ability..." to 21 "...cut-off levels are displayed in Table 2"), just after the sentence "Figures 1 and 2 display box plots....ventilation" (page 10 ,line 19), in order to group together results related to time to ICU admission or mechanical ventilation (the survival analysis by Cox model and Kaplan Meier estimates)

As suggested, the paragraph was moved.