Author's response to reviews

Title: Impact of Gender on Response to Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy in HIV-1 Infected Patients: A nationwide population-based cohort study

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Author's response to reviews:

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Dear Editor-in-chief,

Thank you for suggestions of revision, before further evaluation of our article. We have read all the comments carefully and hope that we have addressed your concerns satisfactorily.

Below we have inserted our answers in to the questions.

1) Request for abstract section.

The Abstract of the manuscript should not exceed 350 words and must be structured into separate sections: Background, the context and purpose of the study; Methods, how the study was performed and statistical tests used; Results, the main findings; Conclusions, brief summary and potential implications. Please minimize the use of abbreviations and do not cite references in the abstract. Trial registration, if your research article reports the results of a controlled health care intervention, please list your trial registry, along with the unique identifying number (e.g. Trial registration: Current Controlled Trials ISRCTN73824458). Please note that there should be no space between the letters and numbers of your trial registration number. We recommend manuscripts that report randomized controlled trials follow the CONSORT extension for abstracts.

Reply: Abstract wordcount is 312 and it contains the requested sections. The research article does not report a controlled health care intervention and
therefore does not have a trial intervention number.
Tonilynn Manibo from the Journal Editorial Office agrees that the correct format and content of abstract are provided and therefore no changes have been made.

2) **We would like to ask for the name of ethics committee.**

**Request for ethics statement.**

Research involving human subjects (including human material or human data) that is reported in the manuscript must have been performed with the approval of an appropriate ethics committee. Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html HYPERLINK "https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&amp;amp;view=bsp&amp;amp;ver=ohhl4rw8mbn4"http://intranet.biomedcentral.com/Wiki/images/out.png). A statement to this effect must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate.

Reply: Studies on information from registers in Denmark do not require approval from the Danish Research Ethics Committee, but you do have to consult the Danish Data Protection Agency to confirm that you store information safely.

The following sentence has been added to the ethical statement in the method section:

Since data collection did not involve direct patient contact the study was not subject to approval by the Danish Research Ethics Committee.

Now, the ethical statement is as follows:

Ethics
The study has been approved by the Danish Data Protection Agency (jr. 2001-41-0624). The DHCS is approved by the Danish Data Protection Agency. Since data collection did not involve direct patient contact the study was not subject to approval by the Danish Research Ethics Committee.

Furthermore, I would like to add that ref. 28 is now available online and the reference has therefore been revised.

I am sorry for the inconvenience this may caused.

Yours sincerely,

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