Author's response to reviews

Title: Understanding fatigue during hepatitis C virus treatment: results of self-reported fatigue severity in two Phase IIb studies of simeprevir treatment in patients with hepatitis C virus genotype 1 infection

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On behalf of the authors, please find detailed below a point-by-point description of the changes made to our manuscript in response to your recent request for further information:

1. **Inclusion of an ethics statement**: The following text has been added to the methods section of the manuscript: *Both study protocols were reviewed by the appropriate Independent Ethics Committee/Institutional Review Board at each participating study center and the studies were conducted in accordance with the ethical principles of the Declaration of Helsinki and in accordance with Good Clinical Practice guidelines.*

2. **Inclusion of a consent statement**: The following text has been added to the methods section of the manuscript: *All patients were required to provide written informed consent prior to participation in the studies.*

3. **Clarification on whether any data have already been published in previous articles based on these trials**: Of the two clinical trials on which this work is based, one has been published and one has been submitted for publication. However, all data presented in the manuscript are new and have not been published elsewhere.

A manuscript on clinical data from the ASPIRE study (NCT00980330) has recently been submitted to *Gastroenterology*.

We trust that the above adequately answers your questions; however, if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Faithfully

Jane Scott