Author's response to reviews

Title: Sex-specific disease outcomes of HIV-positive and HIV-negative drug users admitted to an opioid substitution therapy program in Spain: a cohort study.

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

We are submitting the revised version of the manuscript entitled “Sex-specific disease outcomes of HIV-positive and HIV-negative drug users admitted to an opioid substitution therapy program in Spain: a cohort study.” to be considered for publication in your journal.

We appreciate the opportunity to revise and resubmit and we believe that all the reviewers and editor comments have been addressed.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Roberto Muga, MD, MPH
Reviewer's report
Title:
Sex-specific disease outcomes of HIV-positive and HIV-negative drug users admitted to an opioid substitution therapy program in Spain: a cohort study.
Version:
3
Date:
7 August 2014
Reviewer:
Sarah Larney
Reviewer's report:
The authors have addressed all of my points. My only final point would be to ask that Table 3 includes a note that tells the reader which non-significant variables are included in the multivariable models (i.e. male multivariable model adjusted for x and y; female multivariable model adjusted for y).

In order to clarify the variables used in multivariate analysis and according to reviewer comment we added a footnote in table 3 that reads as follows:

“Multivariate Cox regression with stepwise forward selection method. Statistically significant predictors are in bold (p < 0.05).

1. Multivariate analysis for men included age at admission, injection drug use, prior incarceration, HIV infection, HCV infection and HBV infection.
2. Multivariate analysis for women included age at admission, injection drug use, prior incarceration, HIV infection and HBV infection. “

Level of interest:
An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English:
Acceptable

Statistical review:
No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests

Editorial requirement:
Requesting consent statement:

Please state in the Methods section whether written informed consent for participation
in the study was obtained from participants or, where participants are children, a parent or guardian.

Done. We added this information in Methods section, page 7, 2nd paragraph.