Author's response to reviews

Title: Long-term outcome of infective endocarditis: a study on patients surviving over one year after the initial episode treated in a Finnish teaching hospital during 25 years

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Ashleigh Manning and Claudia Browning
Assistant Editors
BCM –series journals

Dear Editors

Thank you for your positive letter regarding our manuscript: MS: 5666109001596981 entitled “Long-term outcome of infective endocarditis: a study on patients surviving over one year after the initial episode treated in a Finnish teaching hospital during 25 years” by Maija Heiro, Hans Helenius, Saija Hurme, Timo Savunen, Kaj Metsärinne, Erik Engblom, Jukka Nikoskelainen and myself.

In your letter, you encouraged us to include an Acknowledgement section between the Authors contributions section and the Reference list. This has been done by acknowledging Ms. Leeni Nurmi (a nurse with no external funding) for collecting patient data during the early phase of this study. Unfortunately, we did not find any person other than the authors of the manuscript to include in the Acknowledgement section who should have made even a minor contribution to conception, design, acquisition of data, or analysis or interpretation of data, or who should have been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for intellectual content. This is explained by the fact that all scientists and attending clinicians, i.e. specialists in infectious diseases, clinical cardiology, cardiac surgery as well as statisticians involved in such activities have been included in the author list of this paper.

As requested, we have included the sources of funding for this study in the Acknowledgement section, as well as added the information that the funding body had no role in the study design, collection, analysis or interpretation of data, or in the decision to submit the manuscript for publication.

Efforts have also been made to ensure that the revised manuscript conforms to the journal style.

We hope that after these revisions and clarifications, you will find this paper satisfactory and suitable to be published in your Journal. Finally, we would like to thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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