Author's response to reviews

Title: The importance of iron in long-term survival of maintenance hemodialysis patients treated with epoetin-alpha and intravenous iron: analysis of 9.5 years of prospectively collected data

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As requested:

Footnotes have been incorporated in the text

The tabular graphics have been removed from figure legends 5 & 6. They now appear as additional tables 4 & 5. The tables have been renumbered and re referenced in the text.

A section "additional files" has been added. The tables 1-6 and 7-9 are in these two additional files.

All figures, 1-9, are in correct order and are referenced in the text.

Authors contributions have been formatted into a paragraph