Editor
BMC Neurology,

Dear Editor,

Many thanks for the acceptance of our paper. We have updated our manuscript with regards to the editorial change:

"Please clarify in the manuscript if the data used is publically available and, if not, kindly indicate who gave the permission to use the data"

We have added the following to the methods section of the manuscript:

The data used are not publicly available. The dataset of hospital episode statistics was provided by the NHS Health and Social Care Information Centre; the mortality data were provided by the Office for National Statistics; and approval to analyse the datasets used in this study was given by the Central and South Bristol Research Ethics Committee (REC number 04/Q2006/176).

Best wishes,

Sreeram Ramagopalan
on behalf of all co-authors