Author's response to reviews

Title: Towards a definition of refractory neuropathic pain for epidemiological research. An international Delphi survey of experts.

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr Charles Argoff

MS: 2621855735605419 Towards a definition of refractory neuropathic pain for epidemiological research. An international Delphi survey of experts.

Thank you for allowing us a further opportunity to respond to the reviewers’ comments to this paper. We are pleased to submit a revised version of our paper, and hope that you will find the change satisfactory.

We are grateful for all of the comments in this and previous reviews of the paper, and are pleased to note, in particular that it is regarded as being "of importance in its field". There was only one specific comment requesting a response:

“Please fully disclose the names/titles/affiliations of the 40 'experts'.”

We are happy to enclose a list of the experts whom we approached, for your information. One of the conditions of the ethical approval for our study, re-iterated in the letters of invitation to participate, was that personal details of participants would remain confidential. We regret therefore that we are not at liberty to publish these names along with the paper, desirable though this may be. We have added a comment to this effect in the Methods section (second paragraph).

We hope that you will appreciate this limitation, and that it will not preclude publication. We will be happy to discuss this or anything else further with you.

Yours sincerely
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