Author's response to reviews

Title: Regional Variation in Hospitalization for Stroke among Asians/Pacific Islanders in the United States: a Nationwide Retrospective Cohort Study

Authors:

Mai N Nguyen-Huynh (mnhuynh@itsa.ucsf.edu)
S. Claiborne Johnston (Clay.Johnston@ucsfmedctr.org)

Version: 3 Date: 23 August 2005

Author's response to reviews: see over
August 22, 2005

Peter Newmark, MD
Editor-in-Chief
BMC Neurology

Re: manuscript # 1117714065629379
“Regional Variation in Hospitalization for Stroke among Asians/Pacific Islanders in the United States: a Nationwide Retrospective Cohort Study”

Dear Dr. Newmark:

We thank you for the comments from the reviewers and the chance to reply to them. We have responded to the reviewer’s comment, and have documented where the change was made in our manuscript as appropriate.

Reviewer# 1 (Michael Hill):
Comment 1: Still on page 5 the data definitions for admin data are unclear. Obviously you have used only ICD9 codes 430-436 but on page 5 you state that you are using 430-438.

That was indeed an oversight on our part. We have revised the methods section (page 5, paragraph 2) to say “We identified all patients with a primary diagnosis of stroke (International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, [ICD-9] codes 430-434, 436)”.

We thank you for the acceptance of our manuscript. We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely yours,

Mai N. Nguyen-Huynh, MD

S. Claiborne Johnston, MD, PhD