Author's response to reviews

Title: Differences between men with screening-detected versus clinically diagnosed prostate cancers

Authors:

Richard M Hoffman (rhoffman@unm.edu)
S NOELL Stone (noell.stone@lshtm.ac.uk)
David Espey (david.espey@ihs.gov)
Arnold L Potosky (potoskya@mail.nih.gov)

Version: 2 Date: 2 November 2004

Author’s response to reviews:

October 4, 2004

Dear BioMed Central:

We are submitting a manuscript entitled "Differences between men with screening-detected versus clinically diagnosed prostate cancers" by R. M. Hoffman, S. N. Stone, D. Espey and A. L. Potosky. This is original research that is being submitted for consideration in the journal BMC Medicine.

The advent of prostate specific antigen (PSA) testing has led to a dramatic increase in the incidence of prostate cancer in the United States. During the past decade, the number of men undergoing aggressive treatment with radical prostatectomy and radiation therapy also increased substantially. Population-based data on PSA screening are largely unavailable and the association of screening detection with treatment decisions has not been adequately addressed in the medical literature. The purpose of this project was to assess whether PSA screening predicted receiving aggressive treatment for clinically localized cancer. Using data from the population-based Prostate Cancer Outcomes Study (PCOS) we compared patient characteristics and treatment selection between men with screening-detected versus clinically diagnosed prostate cancers.

All authors of this research paper have directly participated in the planning, execution, or analysis of the study. All authors of this paper have read and approved the final version submitted. None of the authors have any financial interests, direct or indirect, that might affect the conduct or reporting of this manuscript. The contents of this manuscript have not been copyrighted or published previously nor is it now under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Many thanks for considering our manuscript. I look forward to hearing from you.

S. Noell Stone, MPH
Epidemiology and Cancer Control
New Mexico Tumor Registry
MCSC11-6020
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-001
phone: (505) 272-4885; fax (505) 272-8572; e-mail: noells@nmtr.unm.edu