Author's response to reviews

Title: Incidence, Mortality Patterns and 5-year Relative Survival Ratio of Prostate Cancer among Residents in Singapore from 1968 to 2002

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir,

As suggested by the Editorial Board we have made the following changes in the revised manuscript:

1. We have reported the overall findings of incidence, mortality and 5-year relative survival rates for all the Singapore residents and showed the breakdown by ethnic groups but have not discussed the ethnic differences in details knowing the small numbers of the Malays and Indians.
2. We have also not broken down the results into stage and have removed a large part of our earlier results involving the different staging of prostate cancer.
3. Interpretations regarding the effectiveness of screening and its implications have also been removed in the revised manuscript.
4. The manuscript has been simplified (30% cut) and focused more on the descriptive rather than inference of our findings.

We trust the revised manuscript will meet the Editorial Board’s acceptance and would like to thank the Editor for giving us another opportunity to further refine our manuscript.