Author's response to reviews

Title: Postoperative IOP prophylaxis practice following uncomplicated cataract surgery: a UK-wide consultant survey

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Author's response to reviews:

2 May 2005

Dear Sir,

I have taken into consideration all the comments of the reviewer, and have made changes into the manuscript. The amended manuscript has been sent to the journal. Here is a point by point explanation of the reviewers comments:

1) The abstract had been submitted in the "Abstract" section of Biomedcentral. However, now it is attached at the beginning of the main manuscript as well.
2) The exact questionnaire and forced choices posted to the surgeons is included as Appendix 1 in the manuscript.
3) As suggested by the reviewer we have looked at the following:
   a) the timing of first postoperative check in the two groups of surgeons (those who routinely give or don't give prophylaxis)
   b) relation between timing of first IOP check and reported experience with adverse events.
   The results are shown in tables 1 and 2.
4) We have made changes in the third paragraph of the "Discussion" as per the observations of the referee.
5) It was a weakness of our questionnaire, that we did not ask the surgeons about their annual cataract surgical volumes, and the number of complications they had encountered. We acknowledge this now in the discussion.
6) We have included two out of three references mentioned by the reviewer in our discussion.
7) We accept the comments made by the reviewer (point no. 8), but leave it to the readers to draw their conclusions.
8) The reviewer has rightly drawn attention to the fact that of the surgeons who do not prescribe routine IOP lowering agents, 66% chose not to give a reason for the basis of their practice. We have included this in our discussion. But we will stand by the other comments, because we can only analyse the information we obtained from the responses.

Thank you for your comments and giving us an opportunity to clarify the above points.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Usha Zamvar and Prof. Baljean Dhillon