Author's response to reviews

Title: Variability of physicians thresholds for neuroimaging in children with recurrent headache

Authors:

Carrie Daymont (cdaymont@mich.ca)
Patrick J McDonald (pmcdonald@exchange.hsc.mb.ca)
Kristy Wittmeier (kwittmeier@exchange.hsc.mb.ca)
Martin H Reed (mreed@exchange.hsc.mb.ca)
Michael Moffatt (mmoffatt@wrha.mb.ca)

Version: 2 Date: 13 June 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
June 5, 2014

Dear Editor and Reviewers,

We thank both referees for their review of our paper and for their helpful suggestions. Please see our responses below.

Regarding the recommendation from Referee 1 to include corresponding clinical features for each risk level:

We realized that we need to be more clear in the manuscript that we purposely did not include any clinical features in our survey because we wanted respondents’ decisions to be based solely on the hypothetical degrees of risk that we provided. We did not want them to be influenced by their perception of the degree of risk associated with certain clinical features. We added the following sentence to the second paragraph of the Participants and Methods section in order to make that more clear: “Participants were not provided with any corresponding clinical features for the hypothetical risk levels.”

Regarding the recommendation from Referee 2 to include percentages for all variables in table 4:

This was an oversight on our part, and we have included all of these numbers now. While completing this, we noticed an error in the numbers for the statement about whether colleagues believe it is important to avoid unnecessary neuroimaging. Those numbers have been fixed. When we rechecked the remainder of numbers in the document we also found a few instances of percentages that had been rounded incorrectly which were fixed. We apologize for these errors. None of these changes affect any conclusions.

We reviewed the text and made several small copy edits. As requested, we have added email addresses to our title page. One author’s email address has changed since our initial submission; this has been changed in the submission system as well.

My co-authors and I very much look forward to your response to our revised manuscript.

Sincerely,

Carrie Daymont