Author's response to reviews

Title: Risk factors for recurrent injuries in victims of suspected non-accidental trauma: a retrospective cohort study

Authors:

Katherine J Deans (katherine.deans@nationwidechildrens.org)
Jonathan Thackeray (jonathan.thackeray@nationwidechildrens.org)
Jonathan I Groner (jonathan.groner@nationwidechildrens.org)
Jennifer N Cooper (jennifer.cooper@nationwidechildrens.org)
Peter C Minneci (peter.minneci@nationwidechildrens.org)

Version: 3 Date: 6 August 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
August 6, 2014

Dr. O’Donovan,

We thank you for the opportunity to submit our revised manuscript entitled “Risk factors for recurrent injuries in victims of suspected non-accidental trauma: a retrospective cohort study” for consideration for publication as an original research article in BMC Pediatrics. Please find below a point by point response to the editor’s comments.

As previously stated, this study was also presented as a poster at the 2013 Pediatric Academic Societies annual meeting in Washington, DC and as an oral presentation at the 2013 Helfer Society annual meeting in Sonoma, CA. However, there are no prior publications or submissions with any overlapping information, including studies and patients. In addition, this manuscript will not be submitted elsewhere while under consideration at BMC Pediatrics. Each author has seen and approved the submission of this revised version of the manuscript, and each takes full responsibility for the manuscript. All authors declare no conflict of interest. All authors have read and are in full agreement with the editorial policies of BMC Pediatrics. No honorarium, grant, or other form of payment was given to anyone to produce the manuscript.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine J. Deans, MD, MHSc
Center for Surgical Outcomes Research and Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice
The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital
700 Childrens Drive, JWest 4914
Columbus, OH 43205
Phone: 614-722-3066
Fax: 614-722-3903
Email: katherine.deans@nationwidechildrens.org
Response to editor

Editorial Comments

1. Title Page
Please remove all author suffixes from the title page. This information can be included in an author’s information section as described here: http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpediatr/authors/instructions/researcharticle#formatting-information

We have removed all author suffixes from the title page. We do not find it necessary to include an author information section.

2. Databases
Please clarify in your cover letter and state in the methods section of your manuscript whether access to the database you used is freely available, and if not, who gave permission to use it.

We have added the following sentence to the “Data Source” section within the methods section: Access to this claims database is available to researchers at our institution, though is not freely available to individuals outside of our institution, and was granted by the PFK accountable care organization.

3. STROBE
Please include a statement in the methods section of your manuscript confirming that your research has adhered to the STROBE guidelines for observational studies as outlined here: http://www.strobe-statement.org. Please upload a completed checklist as an additional file with your revised submission.

Thank you for this helpful comment. We have added the following statement to the methods section: This research study has adhered to the STROBE guidelines for observational studies as outlined at http://www.strobe-statement.org. We have also uploaded a completed checklist with our revised submission.

************************

Additional formatting request:

1. Authors’ Contributions: We suggest the following format (please use initials to refer to each author’s contribution): AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination and helped to draft the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.
We have revised the format of the author’s contributions section as suggested.