Author's response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of Seasonal Patterns of Kawasaki Syndrome- and Rotavirus-associated Hospitalizations in California and New York, 2000-2005

Authors:

Adam MacNeil (aho3@cdc.gov)
Robert C Holman (rch1@cdc.gov)
Krista L Yorita (KYorita@cdc.gov)
Claudia A Steiner (Claudia.Steiner@ahrq.hhs.gov)
Umesh D Parashar (uap2@cdc.gov)
Ermias D Belay (ebb8@cdc.gov)

Version: 4 Date: 21 September 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
To Whom It May Concern:

We would like to thank the editor and reviewers for their comments regarding our manuscript titled "Evaluation of Seasonal Patterns of Kawasaki Syndrome- and Rotavirus-associated Hospitalizations in California and New York, 2000-2005." We have found the additional comments helpful and have attempted to address all comments.

Please find below a point-by-point response to the editor’s and reviewers’ comments. Thank you for considering our manuscript for publication in *BMC Pediatrics*.

Sincerely,

Adam MacNeil, PhD, MPH
EIS Officer
Poxvirus and Rabies Branch
Division of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases
National Center for Zoonotic, Vector-Borne, and Enteric Diseases
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Rd NE, MS G-43, Atlanta, GA, 30333
aho3@cdc.gov (email)
404-639-4164 (office)
404-639-3111 (fax)
Response to reviewer’s comments

Editor’s inquiry about ethical approval.

We have added the following statement to the ‘Methods’ section of the manuscript, “Because HCUP data is secondary administrative data without clear patient identifiers, it has been determined that the data is exempt from ethical approval.”

Reviewer 2.

We have revised the first paragraph to state, “and currently the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommends routine immunization of all US children against rotavirus, starting at 6 weeks of age.”