Author's response to reviews

Title: A modelled economic evaluation comparing atomoxetine with methylphenidate in the treatment of children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder in Spain

Authors:

Jihyung Hong (j.hong@lse.ac.uk)
Tatiana Dilla (dilla_tatiana@lilly.com)
Jorge Arellano (arellano_jorge@lilly.com)

Version: 3 Date: 23 March 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
23 March 2009

Sabina Alam
In-House Editor
BMC Psychiatry
BioMed Central Ltd
Middlesex House,
34-42 Cleveland Street
London W1T 4LB
UK

Dear Sabina,

Re the resubmission of the manuscript: "A modelled economic evaluation comparing atomoxetine with methylphenidate in the treatment of children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder in Spain" by Jihyung Hong et al.

We have addressed the issue of ethical approval as follows:

Response to editor:

- As you will see, the reviewer is mainly satisfied with your revisions. However, before we can accept the manuscript we need you to clarify if ethical approval was obtained for this study?
- Modelling-based analyses are undertaken to model the costs and effectiveness associated with treatments based on the best quality data available. Data from multiple sources, clinical trials in particular, are synthesized as done in the present modelling study. Thus this type of study needs not further obtain any ethical approval since it does not involve any patient participation. As mentioned however, we have extracted data from several clinical trials, and thus added the following sentence in the text (see page 9): “In addition, clinical trials directly included in this study for the data synthesis were approved according to local requirements for ethics and/or regulatory approvals for clinical trials”.

Response to Referee:

- “Major points of criticism suggested in our previous review have been sufficiently addressed. One additional sentence in terms of ethics committee’s approvals of clinical trials, which have been synthesized of the current study, might be relevant.”
We have added the following sentence (see page 9): “In addition, clinical trials directly included in this study for the data synthesis were approved according to local requirements for ethics and/or regulatory approvals for clinical trials”.