Author's response to reviews

Title: Epidemiology and Cost Analysis for Patients with Oral Cancer in a University Hospital in China

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Comments:

The aim of this study is to probe into the epidemiological characteristics and health economics characteristics for oral cancer, and the relationship between the two. The study has found:

1) The medical cost for smokers is evidently higher than that of non-smokers;
2) The median age of rural patients is evidently younger than that of urban patients;
3) The medical cost for patients with medicare is evidently lower than that of those without medicare;
4) Medical hospitalization days and medical cost for patients at stage III are evidently higher that those of patients at stage I, II, IV.

Integrating epidemiology with health economics, this study has, for the first time, compared oral cancer occurrence factors and other related factors with medical hospitalization days and medical cost by means of statistical methods. Finding 2 reflects the wide gap between rural and urban areas in terms of life quality in China, and Finding 3 tallies with the status of medicare coverage in China.