Author's response to reviews

Title: Epidemiological and economic burden of metabolic syndrome and its consequences in patients with hypertension in Germany, Spain and Italy; a prevalence-based model.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors,

Thank you for accepting our paper for inclusion into the BMC.

You requested some formatting changes to be made.

**Major revisions:**

You requested the following:
- **Figures:** The figure legends contain graphics. These will either need to be included within the image as a key, or written in text (e.g. "black square").

The legend has been included within the image as a key in figures 2, 3, 4 and 5. Figure 1 does not need a key/legend.

**Minor revisions:**

We have removed all highlighting and tracking from the document and we have changed the abbreviation list to a paragraph.

The other minor revisions (tables, figures and references) have not been done. We would be grateful if you could do these while preparing the manuscript for submission.

Yours faithfully,

Sue Langham, on behalf of all authors.