Author's response to reviews

Title: Payment for performance (P4P): any future in Italy?

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Milan, 9th December 2010

Dear Prof. Sue Wilson and Mrs Roxane Rajabi,
first I want to thank the two referees especially Dr Robert Fleetcroft because they helped us to review our work, highlighting some parts which we were not able to make clear in the first draft. As requested we provided answers to all the points made by the reviewers and we put the text reviewed in yellow colour.
We have made clearer the aim of the study both in abstract and conclusions.
We have considered the article of Van Herck et al. (2010) and it was added to our references, also if our work was sent to you in July and the study of Van Herck was published in August.
We have underlined why we did not make any international comparison.
We have defined better in which way we did our literature review and why we have chosen those 13 indicators.
We have explained why we have chosen those 3 hospitals.
We have explained the lack of some data and the impossibility to calculate their indicators in the tables n 3,4,5.
We have named again conclusions in discussion and conclusions and we have written again them.
We have corrected the number of words both for the abstract and the text.
We have specified:
- the contribution of each authors
- that the data are available
- that no ethical approval is needed
- that no financial or competing interests were present.
We have reviewed all the English spelling and we have improved the style.
Best Regards
Silvana Castaldi