Author’s response to reviews

Title: High incidence of prostate cancer metastasis in Afro-Brazilian men with low educational levels: a retrospective observational study

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Version: 7 Date: 15 November 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Author’s response to reviews

Title: “High incidence of prostate cancer metastasis in Afro-Brazilian men with low educational levels”

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Version: 6 Date: 15/11/12

Author’s response to reviews: See over
Title: High incidence of prostate cancer metastasis in Afro-Brazilian men with low educational levels.

Version: 5 Date: 27 September 2012
Reviewer: Neil Martin
Reviewer's report:
Major compulsory revisions:

1) Abstract methods: first line should read "...more likely to present with metastasis..."
Corrected, as suggested.

2) The authors should change the wording of their hypothesis. A prognostic marker is a feature which controlling for other known prognostic markers tells you additional information about how an individual will do with their disease. In this study they show that lower SES is associated with worse disease at presentation only not that skin color or SES is associated with disease outcome independently.
Corrected, we change “prognostic marker” to “factor related”.

3) "Glasgow" should be changed to Gleason in the last paragraph of the discussion.
Corrected, as suggested.

4) The authors need to explain what it means to have collected medical record data from "select cases". This dramatically alters the reader's ability to interpret the data if they are somehow extrapolating from a selected review.
Corrected. We have collected the record data from all cases related between 1997 and 2005 at Luiz Antonio Hospital.

5) the conclusion should be changed along the lines of point 2 -the authors have not shown that men of African descent are more likely to develop metastatic disease, merely that they are more likely to present with advanced disease.
Corrected, We modify thus information as suggested.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
We sent the paper to Edanz Group for correctness of language.

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests
Title: High incidence of prostate cancer metastasis in Afro-Brazilian men with low educational levels.
Version: 5 Date: 25 September 2012
Reviewer: Annalisa Rosso
Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revisions:
The Discussion section should go after the Results section
Page 3, line 17: correct with dot after the word "cancer" instead of a comma.
Corrected, as suggested.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
We sent the paper to Edanz Group for correctness of language.

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.