Author's response to reviews

Title: Contribution of respiratory tract infections to child deaths: a data linkage study

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Jane M. Dalumpines
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21st August 2014

Dear Jane,

Thank you for your email of 21st August 2014, outlining some clarifications requested by the Editor. We have now inserted further details regarding the linkage algorithm used, and now cite a reference with even more detailed information regarding how linkage was carried out. We have also clarified that all data were anonymised before we received them (as linkage was not carried out by us), and therefore we did not have access to any personal identifiers. We did not seek ethical approval as this is not required for anonymised data collected for non-research purposes according to the NHS Research Authority.

We believe these changes clarify the linkage methods used as well as the ethical position of the research.

Thank you again for your interest in our paper.

Yours sincerely,

Pia Hardelid