Author's response to reviews

Title: First-year results of the Global Influenza Hospital Surveillance Network: 2012-2013 Northern hemisphere influenza season

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

Thank you for your recent comments on our manuscript, “First-year results of the Global Influenza Hospital Surveillance Network: 2012-2013 Northern hemisphere influenza season” (MS 2312452061257091). We were informed by Ms. Dalumpines that you would like us to respond to the following comment:

A similar change regarding vaccination status needs to be made to clarify the inclusion group at the end of the results. The results section "Influenza vaccine uptake" refers to all hospitalized patients, but follows the results for influenza-positive patients. It needs to be made clear that you are referring to patients who were either positive or negative for influenza infection.

Point-by-point response to the comment

We agree with the comment that it may not be clear that the “Influenza vaccine uptake” results section is referring to all patients in the study included in the analysis regardless there influenza status.

We have modified the results section “Influenza vaccine uptake” as follow (new text underlined):

Influenza vaccine uptake

Influenza vaccination coverage among all hospitalized patients included in the study, whether positive or negative for influenza, was low in St. Petersburg (1.4%), Moscow (1.7%), and Turkey (14.5%) and moderate in Spain (38.9%) and France (47.0%). Influenza vaccination among all patients was highest in elderly adults in Spain (60.7%), Turkey (23.1%), and France (63.8%). In hospitalized children, regardless RT-PCR results, uptake rates at all coordinating sites were very low (≤5%).

Thank you for the opportunity to publish our manuscript in *BMC Public Health*. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Joan Puig-Barberà  
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