Author's response to reviews

Title: Hypertension in the Parsi community of Bombay: A study on prevalence, awareness and compliance to treatment

Authors:

Nadir E. Bharucha (nbharucha@vsnl.com)
Dr Thomas Kuruvilla (olasa@vsnl.com)

Version: 4 Date: 15 Dec 2002

To,
Enitan Sawyerr,
Editorial Assistant, 1/12/2002
BMC Journals

Dear Enitan Sawyerr,
Sub: 'Hypertension in the Parsi community of Bombay: A study on prevalence, awareness and compliance to treatment' - revised version

We have revised our manuscript and tried to incorporate most of the changes and clarifications suggested by the referees. The following are the details:
1. We have added a table (Table 1) showing the demographic profile of the Parsi community compared to that of the general Indian population.
2. A brief mention of the problem of hypertension in India has been added in the 'Introduction'.
3. Under 'Methods', we have mentioned the other questions that were asked in the questionnaire.
4. We reanalysed our data at 10 year age intervals as required. We also made age standardised calculations for the Indian and American populations.
5. We have deleted the subheadings as required.
6. We have divided the table on prevalence into 2 tables, one showing prevalence in men and the other prevalence in women.
7. We have included the definition on optimal control of HT in 'Results' as required.
8. Our data on prevalence of HT in rural India (3-4%) has been quoted from Reference No. 8 (Hypertension India- official publication of the Hypertension Society of India, pg. 6, Table 2) and in that study the current definition of HT (140/90 mm Hg) has been used. However, we agree with the reviewer that the figure quoted is rather low and in the revised article, we have referred to data from a more recent study.
9. We did miscalculate the prevalence of ISH. We thank the reviewer for pointing this out to us. We have made the necessary changes in the article.
10. There are no competing interests and this has been sent with the revised article.

We hope the queries have been answered suitably. We thank both the reviewers for going through our manuscript and helping us make the study much more meaningful.

With kind regards,
Nadir E. Bharucha, MD, FRCP
Thomas Kuruvilla, MD