Author's response to reviews

Title: Comparing Estimates of Influenza-Associated Hospitalization and Death among Adults with Congestive Heart Failure Based on how Influenza Season is Defined

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

We agree with the reviewer's comments and have calculated the attributable rates of hospitalization and death using the original numerator and have used patient-days as a denominator. The rates are shown as events per 10,000 patient days. In addition we show confidence intervals. (see tables 2 and 4).

We have added the following text to the methods (last sentence, page 7):

The rate of attributable hospitalizations and deaths was calculated using patient-days as the denominator.

We also have added the following text to the comment section (page 11, first para)

The influenza attributable rates of hospitalization using the various definitions were similar (range 0.83 to 1.03 per 10,000 days) (Table 2) while the attributable deaths ranged from 0.10 to 0.38 per 10,000 days (Table 4).