Author's response to reviews

Title: Persistent Chlamydia Pneumoniae serology is related to decline in lung function in women but not in men

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editors,

We hereby have the privilege of submitting our manuscript "Persistent Chlamydia Pneumoniae serology is related to decline in lung function in women but not in men" for consideration as an original paper in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

This is a longitudinal population-based study, on the role of Chlamydia Pneumoniae in change of lung function over time in men and women. Even though several studies on the association of C pn and respiratory diseases have been performed large population-based longitudinal studies are lacking. No studies are available on the association between C pn serology and long term changes in lung function.

Our data indicate that persistent C pn infections is related to increased decline in lung function in women but not in men. This study is a further indication that the pathophysiological process leading to lung impairment may differ between men and women.

This manuscript has not been published elsewhere and, if accepted in BMC Pulmonary Medicine, will not be republished in any other journal in the same or similar form without the written consent of the Editors of BMC Pulmonary Medicine. The authors state no conflicts of interest. The manuscript has been read and approved by all authors.

We look forward hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,