Author's response to reviews

Title: Ventilatory efficiency testing as prognostic value in patients with pulmonary hypertension

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Prof. Henderson,
Executive Editor of BioMed Central

thank you very much for your e-mail from 20/1/2012. Therefore we make our best effort to response adequately to the excellent statistical recommendations of the reviewer. All new changes were highlighted with red text.

After a long and intensive review process with excellent recommendations of the reviewers, we hope that this manuscript is now sufficient to publish on the BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Best wishes

Martin Schwaiblmair
Point-by-point response to the Referee comments:

Referee 3

Ad 1) We changed the phrase – see page 5, paragraph 2

Ad 2) We changed the first sentence in this section – see page 6, paragraph 1

Ad 3) We also changed the first sentence in the statistical section – see page 8, paragraph 1

Ad 4) According to the reviewers comment, we changed this sentence – see page 10, paragraph 3

Ad 5) On the basis of the reviewers major doubts and awkward presentations of the multivariate model, we resolved to remove the multivariate model from our manuscript (see also point 6, 7 and 8) – see page 8, paragraph 3 between 4 and also page 10, between paragraph 3 and 4

Ad 6) According to the reviewers recommendation, we specified the Wald test and the “Kaplan-Meier” discussion in a better way – see page 4, paragraph 4

Ad 7 and ad 8) see also point 5; we removed the multivariate analysis from our manuscript – among other things see removed table 3

Ad 9) We introduced in this table the 95% confidence intervals of the odds ratio and we removed the values of relative risk. Furthermore, we introduced the corresponding p-values and from the ROC curves the corresponding AUC-values – see table 3 and page 10, paragraph 4

Ad 10) It is correct that the cutoff value of VO2 is derived from the literature (reference 2) and the cutoffs from the other variables are determined by the ROC curves – see table 3 and page 10, paragraph 4