Author's response to reviews

Title: Assessment of measurement properties of peak VO2 in children with pulmonary arterial hypertension

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews:

August 10, 2012

Dear Ms. Maria Merrie Jul Ladag:

On behalf of my co-authors, I am pleased to resubmit our manuscript, “Assessment of measurement properties of peak VO2 in children with pulmonary arterial hypertension,” for consideration for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine (MS: 9790425586852645).

Our manuscript investigates the measurement properties of the peak oxygen consumption (VO2, maximal exercise test) in pediatric patients with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) in terms of its associations with other clinical endpoints and its reliability. The study found that the peak VO2 has favorable measurement properties in pediatric patients with PAH. The peak VO2 measurements exhibited good reliability and improvements that were associated with improvements in clinical endpoints, such as the WHO functional class and a physician global assessment of change.

We believe that this topic is of interest because the 6-minute walk test (a widely used, noninvasive technique to assess PAH severity and response to treatment in adults with PAH) may not be appropriate for children at all ages, and because our data were from the first large placebo-controlled trial to use and assess the peak VO2 endpoint in the pediatric PAH population.

This research was supported by Pfizer Inc. I am an employee of Pfizer Inc as are my colleagues, Lie-Ju Hwang, Jack Mardekian and Marko A. Mychaskiw.

This manuscript has not been previously published and is not under consideration at another journal.

We are attaching the revised manuscript, along with the authors’ responses to the comments received from the previous journal review (see below).

We hope you find our revised paper suitable for publication.
Sincerely,
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Requests from Maria Merrie Jul (MS: 9790425586852645)
Title: Assessment of Measurement Properties of Peak VO2 in Children with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension

SUMMARY
We are happy with the revisions that you have made and we will be happy to accept the manuscript for publication as soon as you can upload a revised manuscript which includes the names of all the ethics committees that gave approval.

Authors’ Response: The list of ethics committees that gave approval have been added as a footnote beginning on page 6.

Please also ensure that your revised manuscript conforms to the journal style (http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/medicine_journals ). It is important that your files are correctly formatted.

Authors’ Response: The manuscript has been reformatted to conform to the journal style.