Author's response to reviews

Title: Major Comorbid Conditions in Asthma and Association with Asthma-related Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Admissions in Adults: Results from the German National Health Interview Survey (GEDA) 2010

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Editorial Office
BMC Pulmonary Medicine

Dear editors,

Thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to revise our manuscript. First, we added an ethical statement into the method section, second paragraph:

"As the participation in the National Health Telephone Interview Surveys is voluntary, not arising any costs for survey participants, and because the study has no medical relevance for individual survey participants (no medical research involving human subjects is being conducted) an ethics approval was not compulsory. In terms of data protection and informed consent the study was approved by The Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information. Verbal informed consent was provided by all participants prior to the interview."

Second, we added a section on the individual contributions of authors to the manuscript which follows the declaration of competing interests at the end of the manuscript:

“HS, UL, CS participated in the concept and design of the study. All authors participated in the design of the analysis plan and the interpretation of the data. HS, UL, CS analysed the data and drafted the manuscript. UL, CS, and TK critically revised the manuscript and supervised HS. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.”

We trust that our revision can now satisfy the submission requirements of BMC Pulmonary Medicine. Thank you very much for handling our manuscript. We are looking forward to your reply.
Yours sincerely,

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