Author's response to reviews

Title: Daily activity during stability and exacerbation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We wish to submit this manuscript, entitled “Daily activity during stability and exacerbation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease “, for publication in the BioMed central Journal.

COPD is a major chronic disease. Exacerbations are important events in the natural history of the disease causing much morbidity and mortality. This study demonstrates that exacerbations are associated with a reduced daily activity and that the recovery in daily activity differs between treated and untreated exacerbations. This study also reveals differences between the stable state daily activity levels of frequent and infrequent exacerbators. Our findings suggest that impairment of daily activity may be a key factor in patients seeking additional therapy for their exacerbation.

The findings of this study have not been published elsewhere. An abstract was submitted to the British Thoracic Society Meeting in December 2012 and to the European Respiratory Society meeting in September 2013. AA, JW and GD were responsible the study concept. AA, AP, BK, AM and RS reviewed patients in clinic and collected data. GD performed the statistical analysis. All authors were involved in editing the paper prior to submission, and have seen and approved the final version of the paper. There are no conflicts of interest regarding any of the authors. There are no financial or other conflicts of interest. We would like to thank the Medical Research Council for support.

We have made the following changes as you requested:

1- A “Conclusions” section has been added after the "Discussion section"
2- A ‘Competing interests’ section has been added
3- The “Contributions” section has been renamed as “Authors' Contributions”.

Ayedh AlAhmari will act as the corresponding author.

Yours sincerely,

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