Author's response to reviews

Title: Hemoptysis, a developing world perspective.

Authors:

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Sir,

Following changes have been made to the manuscript titled 'Hemoptysis, a developing world perspective', in light of reviewer's comments.

Reviewer:

Phillip Eng

Since this manuscript is a study protocol, it is not entirely clear as to what may be the desired content in a 'results' and 'discussion' section. However, the overall manuscript has now been altered and 'results' and 'discussion' sections have been created.

Reviewer:

Joanna Moschandreas

General

The data analysis methods have been altered in the revised manuscript.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. t-test may indeed be inappropriate and this has now been removed. The measurement of interest is stoppage of bleeding. This has been mentioned in the manuscript text now. Also it is agreed that multivariate analysis would be most appropriate. This is also included now in the revision.

2. The incorrect definitions of positive and negative predictive values have now been removed in the revised manuscript.

3. a) The 'condition' refers to identification of site of bleeding.

b) The diagnostic test assessed will be chest x-ray and CT scan.

4. PPV and NPV are indeed influenced by prevalence. However, there is no local research that has identified the prevalence in this regard. Foreign data cannot be employed owing to the differences in various factors that influence the outcome. Prevalence may then be assumed as 50%.

5. The main and secondary objectives plus the statistical hypothesis is presented now in the revised manuscript at the end of the Methods/Design section.

Regards.