Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence, Characteristics, and Outcomes of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders: A Survey Among Physical Therapists in the State of Kuwait.

Authors:

Hesham N Alrowayeh (hrowayeh@hsc.edu.kw)
Talal A Alshatti (tshatti@hsc.edu.kw)
Sameera H Aljadi (aljadis@hsc.edu.kw)
Majda Fares (majdafares@hsc.edu.kw)
Mishayek M Alshamire (mishayekh@hotmail.com)
Sahar S Alwazan (saharalwazzan@gmail.com)

Version: 5 Date: 23 May 2010

Author's response to reviews: see over
May 24, 2010
Melissa Norton, MD
Editor -in-Chief, BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders
236 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8HL, United Kingdom.

RE: MS ID: 9570088933385288

Dear Dr. Norton,

Please accept our edited version of the above-mentioned manuscript entitled “Prevalence, Characteristics, and Impacts of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders: A Survey Among Physical Therapists in the State of Kuwait”.

We would like to sincerely thank the reviewers for their time and thought to improve our manuscript. We agreed with most of the comments raised by the reviewers and we implement them in the new edited version of the manuscript. We believe that the new version of the manuscript reads better and is ready for publication. Please see our responses in red to reviewer’s comments, point by point. Thank you for accepting this manuscript for publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders.

Best Regards:

Hesham N. Alrowayeh, PhD, PT
Assistant Professor, Kuwait University
Detailed Responses to Reviewers

Reviewer: Babatunde Adegoke

Minor essential revisions

Procedures

1. Pg 5 Line 2: Amend opening sentence to read “Three hundred and fifty copies of the questionnaire were distributed among prospective participants who were recruited by convenience sampling”. Revised

Prevalence of WMSDs

2. Pg 6, lines 11, 13, 18 and Pg 7, lines 3&4: Replace Chi-square values with the p-values which are more informative. Replaced

Table 4

1. Change table’s title to “Impact of WMSDs on physical therapists working in Kuwait”. Changed

2. Ensure agreement between the total number of respondents under ‘number of sick leave taken’ and ‘total number of days with sick leave’ for the following body segments: Shoulder and Ankle/feet. No disagreement was detected, as disparity -if any- between number of sick leave taken and days absent may be explained by the possibility that sick leave was granted, but participant was not necessarily absent. For ankle/feet complaints, it is possible that 25 requests for sick leave were taken for only one day.