Author's response to reviews

Title: Measuring Melasma Patients' Quality of Life using Willingness to Pay and Time Trade-off Methods in Thai Population

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Version: 2 Date: 12 February 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
February 12, 2011

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BMC Dermatology

RE: MS: 1996820379466084 – Measuring Melasma Patients’ Quality of Life using Willingness to Pay and Time Trade-off Methods in Thai population

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find attached our revised manuscript.

We greatly appreciate the constructive feedback that the reviewers have provided. We have made the changes suggested. Please see the attached document for our response to the reviewers’ comments.

Thank-you again for taking the time to review our manuscript.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if any questions and/or concerns should arise.

Sincerely,

Rungsima Wanitphakdeedecha, M.D., M.A., M.Sc.
RE: MS: 1996820379466084 – Measuring Melasma Patients’ Quality of Life using Willingness to Pay and Time Trade-off Methods in Thai population

REVIEW EDITOR COMMENTS:

Editor requests:

- Please clarify whether informed consent was obtained. Please be sure to provide a statement within the Methods section of the manuscript.

== We clarified that informed consent was obtained from all subjects participated in this study → Subjects and Methods, Paragraph 1

- Please include a “Competing interests” section between the conclusions and authors’ contributions. If there are none to declare, please write “The authors declare that they have no competing interests.”

== We have added the “Competing interests” section after Conclusions

- Please include an Authors’ contributions section before the Acknowledgements and Reference list.

== We have added the “Authors’ contributions” section before the Acknowledgements.

- Please revise your Title pages. This should list; the title of the article, which should include an accurate, clear and concise description of the reported work, avoiding abbreviations; and the full names, institutional addresses, and e-mail addresses for all authors. The corresponding author should also be indicated.

== We have revised the Title pages as suggested.

Reviewer: 1 Comments to the Author

The discussion could be shortened.
Table 4 isn’t needed. The information would be presented more efficiently as text.

== We have shorten the discussion and deleted Table 4 → Discussion

One limitation that should be noted is that only patients were evaluated, not the general population of people with melasma. Thus, there could be a lot of people...
who aren’t bothered by melasma and who don’t come to a dermatologist for an evaluation.

== We have shorten the discussion and deleted Table 4 → Discussion, Paragraph 10. ==

The title doesn’t need to name a particular hospital that many readers may not have heard of. Perhaps it would be more valuable to replace that with “a Thai population”.

== We have changed the title to “Measuring Melasma Patients’ Quality of Life using Willingness to Pay and Time Trade-off Methods in Thai population”.

== Thank you very much for your constructive feedback ==

Reviewer: 2 Comments to the Author

Why not validate an existing instrument specific as Melasqol and try relates it with clinical indices as MASI and facial area affects ?

== There are previous studies (Ref 5 and 12) that demonstrated the correlation between Thai DLQI and MASI score; therefore, we assumed that the higher DLQI means higher MASI. ==

Which the real content of the questionnaire for the evaluation of socio-demographic data, which really was asked to the patient and as was made this analysis. It was not clear.

== We asked each patients his/her monthly salary for the evaluation of socio-demographic data. ==

Socio demographic data are little discussed, as well as its origin. It seems that the correlation between the DLQI and the standard TTO does not exist and therefore not permanence inconclusive.

== We are not sure what your question is ? ==

The title is long and inadequate.

== We have changed the title to “Measuring Melasma Patients’ Quality of Life using Willingness to Pay and Time Trade-off Methods in Thai population”.

==Thank you very much for your time and understanding.==