Title: Coronary artery bypass grafting and sensorineural hearing loss, a cohort study.

Authors:

Omer Ashraf (warraicch@yahoo.com)

Date: 22 April 2005

Author's response to reviews:

Response to reviewers:

The following changes have been made to the manuscript in light of reviewers' comments.

Reviewer 1

Reviewer: Caglar Berk.

General:

Fischer exact test is established as a better statistical test for data interpretation and it may be used for data analysis. This has been mentioned in the revised manuscript on page 3, last line of the paragraph, and also on page 9, last line of the article.

Minor essential revisions:

The occurrence of sensorineural hearing loss with neurosurgical procedures has now been mentioned in the revision on page 7 of 14, under the subheading 'Inclusion criteria for controls'.

Quality of written English:

Various language corrections have been attempted throughout the article.

Reviewer 2

Reviewer: Peter Weber.

1. The last two paragraphs at page 5 have been edited and references added.

2. The same anesthesia will be used in both cardiac patients and controls. This has been added to the study design and is mentioned in the revised manuscript on page 2, in the abstract, under the subheading 'Design', and on page 7, under the subheading 'Inclusion criteria for controls'.

3. It has been now decided to include patients with previous history of sensorineural hearing loss. They have now been removed from the 'exclusion criteria' given on pages 7 and 8.