Author's response to reviews

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

Authors:

Omer Ashraf (warraicch@yahoo.com)

Version: 3 Date: 30 August 2005

Author's response to reviews:

Sir,

Following changes have been made in the manuscript titled 'Coronary artery bypass grafting and sensorineural hearing loss, a cohort study', in light of reviewers' comments.

Reviewer 1
Peter Weber
General:
A statistician has been consulted and sample size calculated (as shown under the 'sample size calculation' subheading in the Methods/Design section of the revised manuscript). N is now believed to be large enough to avoid any beta errors.

Reviewer 2
Caglar Berk
No revision suggested by this reviewer.

Reviewer 3
Roger Davis

1. The study design is of a matched cohort study. This has now been included at various parts in the text of the manuscript.
2. The terms 'cases' and 'controls' have now been replaced by the words 'exposed' and 'unexposed' in the body of the article.
3. Sample size calculation has now been done, and explained under the 'sample size calculation' subheading in the Methods/Design section of the revised manuscript. The calculated sample size now is believed to be feasible to manage/achieve.
4. Data analysis will be done by multivariate linear regression. This has been included under the 'data analysis' subheading of the Methods/Design section of the revised manuscript.
5. Alternate means of defining the outcome of the study have been considered, and prospective usage of continuous scale has been indicated under the 'data analysis' subheading of the Methods/Design section of the revised manuscript.

Regards.