Author's response to reviews

Title: Antihyperglycaemic treatment patterns, observed glycaemic control and determinants of treatment change among patients with type 2 diabetes in the United Kingdom primary care: a retrospective cohort study

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to resubmit our manuscript entitled “Antihyperglycaemic treatment patterns, observed glycaemic control and determinants of treatment change among patients with type 2 diabetes in the United Kingdom primary care: a retrospective cohort study”, for your consideration as an original article to be published in BMC Endocrine Disorders. As requested by the editors, we have added line numbers and a heading for the conclusion section.

We have been commissioned by Eli Lilly and Company to research the antihyperglycaemic treatment patterns in the UK among patients with type 2 diabetes. Therefore, we used available epidemiologic data at the population level to describe such treatment patterns, the observed glycaemic control on the corresponding patients and the determinants of treatment change.

We describe antyhperglycaemic treatment patterns in the UK between 2006 and 2011 and conclude that, whilst there is a notable improvement in glycaemic control at the patient level following OAD initiation, a majority of patients remain above the HbA1c levels recommended by NICE and there is a group of patients whose glycaemic control worsens. The robustness of our results is derived from the use of five recent years of data from a large population-based reputable data source in the UK. We believe that our results have implications for type 2 diabetic patients and how they are treated and monitored.

This manuscript has not been previously published and is not under consideration in the same or substantially similar form by any other journal. Partial results of this study were reported as abstracts at two scientific conferences, including oral presentation at the European Association for the Study of Diabetes in Berlin 2012. All authors are listed in order of their contributions and declare no substantial conflicts of interest.

We have followed your preparation guidelines and we have revised our manuscript according to your directions. The ethics statement is now at the end of the methods section, lines 169-171).
We look forward to receiving your comments. Please notify us as soon as possible if you have any comments or questions or require additional documentation.

Sincerely,

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