Author's response to reviews

Title: Cervical dysplasia and cancer: use of hormonal contraceptives in Jamaican women

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Author's response to reviews:

Dr. Lolu da-Silva
Senior Assistant Editor
BMC-series Journal

Dear Dr. da-Silva

We write to thank you the opportunity to strengthen our paper. We have addressed the concerns expressed by the reviewers as outlined below:

i. Methods - We have amended the methods section which now reads as follows:

“Both cases and the comparison group were recruited between April 2001-August 2002. Cases were enrolled from Colposcopy Clinic which were conducted twice weekly at the University Hospital of the West Indies while women in the comparison group were recruited from weekly gynaecology clinics at the same hospital. Both types receive referrals from primary care clinics, hospitals and private practitioners. Consecutive women were invited to participate in the study.

Participation rates among cases and the comparison group were 72% and 60% respectively.

Exclusion criteria. The following persons were excluded from the investigation: women who were pregnant, had hysterectomies or were previously diagnosed with adenocarcinoma

ii. Tables 1 and 2. The numerical errors have been corrected in the tables.

iii. Table 3. We have included the reference category (never used HC) for each set of analyses and have reanalyzed the length of exposure model to account for dose response.
We wish to thank the reviewers for their valuable comments and recommendations.

Yours truly

Norma McFarlane-Anderson