Author's response to reviews

Title: Impact of Bleeding-related Complications and Blood Product Transfusions on Hospital Costs in Inpatient Surgical Patients

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Re: Impact of Bleeding-related Complications and Blood Product Transfusions on Hospital Costs in Inpatient Surgical Patients

Dear Dr. Norton:

My colleagues and I are delighted to submit the following study on the “Impact of Bleeding-related Complications and Blood Product Transfusions on Hospital Costs in Inpatient Surgical Patients,” as an original article to the BMC Health Services Research journal for review. We have included the competing interests and author’s contributions in the body of the manuscript. Funding for this study was provided by Ethicon Inc.

The purpose of this study was to examine the incidence and costs of bleeding-related complications and blood product transfusions in patients undergoing surgery in 7 inpatient surgical cohorts including cardiac, vascular, non-cardiac thoracic, solid organ, general surgery, knee/hip replacement, and reproductive organ surgery. These procedures represent the majority of all inpatient surgical procedures performed in the United States and inpatient data on the costs of treating patients with bleeding-related complications in these procedure groups are limited. Bleeding-related complications are associated with increased morbidity and mortality and the optimal management of bleeding is an important goal. As such, we believe this study will fill an important gap in the medical literature.

For questions, please send all correspondence to:

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please don’t hesitate to call me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Stokes, MPH
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