Author's response to reviews

Title: How Much Are We Really Spending? The Estimation of Research Expenditures on Cardiovascular Disease in Canada

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Dear Editor,

Please consider the attached manuscript, entitled “How Much Are We Really Spending? The Estimation of Research Expenditures on Cardiovascular Disease in Canada,” for publication in the BMC Health Services Research journal.

This paper describes the trajectory of expenditures on cardiovascular disease (CVD) research for the non-profit (public and charitable) and for-profit (private) sectors in Canada between 1975 and 2005. We found that research expenditures devoted to CVD have increased quite a bit over the last three decades, although at lower levels than other developed countries, such as the US and the UK. We believe this study will be of interest to the readers of the BMC Health Services Research journal as well as policy makers as it provides an overview of past trends in CVD research funding, which can prove useful in planning future research efforts.

This work was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and was part of a larger project that examined the return on investing in CVD research in Canada. The contents of this manuscript have not been copyrighted or published previously.

The first author, Claire de Oliveira, collected, analyzed and interpreted the data, contributed to the conceptualization and design of the analysis and wrote the manuscript. All other authors provided their input by interpreting the findings and contributing to the conceptualization and design of the analysis. All authors of this paper have read and approved the final version submitted. None of the authors declare any conflict of interest.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Claire de Oliveira, PhD

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