Author's response to reviews

Title: Discrepancies Between The Medical Record and The Reports Of Patients With Acute Coronary Syndrome Regarding Important Aspects Of The Medical History.

Authors:

Chete M Eze-Nliam (cezenli1@jhmi.edu)
Kellie Cain (khirt1@jhmi.edu)
Kasey Bond (kbond7@jhmi.edu)
Keith Forlenza (kforlenza@loyola.edu)
Rachel Jankowski (rljankowski@loyola.edu)
Gina Magyar-Russell (gmagyar1@jhmi.edu)
Gayane Yenokyan (gyenokya@jhsph.edu)
Roy C Ziegelstein (rzeigel2@jhmi.edu)

Version: 2 Date: 21 October 2011

Author’s response to reviews: see over
October 7, 2011

The Editor

The BMC Health Services Research Journal

Dear Sir,

On behalf of my co-authors, I would like to submit the attached manuscript entitled “DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE MEDICAL RECORD AND THE REPORTS OF PATIENTS WITH ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME REGARDING IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE MEDICAL HISTORY” for consideration for publication as a clinical investigation in the BMC Health Services Research Journal.

This study aims at identifying the frequency and reasons for discrepancies between health information documented in patients' medical records and near concurrent patients' self-reported medical histories. This study is important because the findings underscore the need for efforts targeted towards identifying the sources of these discrepancies, and developing a better understanding of how accurate health information can be most reliably and consistently obtained.

We believe our results will be of great interest to hospitalists, internists and cardiologists because inaccurate health information especially on cardiac risk factors may have important health consequences in patients. A practical initiative implemented to effectively address this anomaly may lead to improvements in patient care quality and safety.

All authors have seen and approved the final manuscript. All the authors accept full responsibility for the design and conduct of the study, had access to the data, and controlled the decision to publish. This work has not been previously published and is not being considered elsewhere for publication.

On behalf of my co-authors, I would like to thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Roy C. Ziegelstein, MD.
Professor of Medicine,
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Department of Medicine, B-1-North,
Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center
4940 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21224-2780
Office (410) 550-0523
Fax (410) 550-1094
E-mail: rziegel2@jhmi.edu