Author's response to reviews

Title: Official statistics and claims data records indicated non-response and recall bias within survey-based estimates on health care utilization in the older population

Authors:

Matthias Hunger (matthias.hunger@helmholtz-muenchen.de)
Larissa Schwarzkopf (l.schwarzkopf@helmholtz-muenchen.de)
Margit Heier (heier@helmholtz-muenchen.de)
Annette Peters (peters@helmholtz-muenchen.de)
Rolf Holle (holle@helmholtz-muenchen.de)

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for pointing out to the fact that we had not stated in our manuscript if the data used in your study is openly available or whether we received permission to use it.

In our manuscript we compared results from the KORA-Age study (two of the principal investigators of which are coauthors of the manuscript as reported in the authors' contribution section) to two other data sources:

Published official reports which are openly available from the Bavarian Office for Statistics and Data Processing and independent insurance claims data from the AOK Bavaria. We obtained the permission to reuse these insurance data in our analyses from the director of studies of the AOK Bavaria. In addition, the cooperation between our institution and the AOK Bavaria has been documented in a contract.

We have added the requested information in the methods section of our manuscript as follows:

"The corresponding sample was provided by AOK Bavaria, a large local SHI fund, from which we obtained the permission to reuse the data in our analyses."

and

"We furthermore compared estimates of long term care utilization to published official reports which are openly available from the Bavarian Office for Statistics and Data Processing [23, 24]"

Best regards,

Matthias Hunger