**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** Are community-living and institutionalized dementia patients cared for differently? Evidence on service utilization and costs of care from German insurance claims data

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**Author’s response to reviews:**

Dear Ms. Reyes

This is a response to your recent e-mail regarding the submission of manuscript 7204078507928477 titled

Are community-living and institutionalized dementia patients cared for differently? Evidence on service utilization and costs of care from German insurance claims data

The paper was initially submitted to “BMC Public Health” but as I understood you correctly you feel it would be better suited to “BMC Health Services Research”. We indeed ourselves also considered a submission to BMC HSR because of good previous experience with the journal. However, since we just published in BMC HSR(June 2012) we thought this might be a too short period of time for another research article of our group. Thus we decided on another BMC journal.

If you do not believe that these concerns are justified, we would be glad if you transfer the corresponding manuscript to BMC HSR on our behalf. Please get in touch with me, if I have need to take any further steps on my own to get this process started.

Regarding your remarks in yesterday’s mail we have made the following changes within the manuscript:

1) A competing interest section was added following the conclusion on page 16.
2) The methods section now contains information on the used data set on page 4.
3) The abstract was separate out on an extra page to ensure its distinction from the main text
I hope, this way all your recommendations and questions are answered in a satisfying manner. In case of any further issues please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Best regards

Larissa Schwarzkopf