Author's response to reviews

Title: Should health insurers target prevention of cardiovascular disease? An analysis of the costs and effects of an individualized programme in Germany based on routine data

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Dear Editor,

We added a sub-section with an ethics statement to the methods section. The consent statement has also been included into this section. It now reads:

“The aim of this study is the evaluation of the real-world health care programme KardioPro. The intervention KardioPro is offered to all persons insured as part of the health care basket provided by a German statutory health insurance, and is covered by the German Social Code §§97, 80 SGB X and §§ 67, 43 SGB V. KardioPro does not introduce new treatment methods, but works by strengthening guideline-specific treatment. This type of support falls within the common responsibilities of a statutory sickness fund. Only subjects who gave written consent to participation were included in KardioPro. Evaluation of KardioPro was authorised by SBK, designed retrospectively and commissioned to an independent research group. The evaluation was based on anonymised, patient-specific routine data of SBK and was approved by the SBK data protection officer.”

Thank you for considering our manuscript for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Björn Stollenwerk