Author's response to reviews

Title: Estimating the incidence of adverse events in Portuguese hospitals: a contribution to improving quality and patient safety

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Reviewer,

Thank you very much for your comments that have helped us improve our manuscript, which is now called according to your suggestion - “Estimating the incidence of adverse events in Portuguese hospitals: a contribution to improving quality and patient safety”.

We hope that the changes we have made in accordance with your precious suggestions have greatly improved this last version making it suitable for publication in the BMC Health Services Research.

Yours faithfully,

Paulo Sousa

Assistant Professor

Here is the answer to the minor comments of the reviewer

Minor Revisions

1. Corrected;
2. Corrected; regarding your comment to the average number of days, we would like to clarify that extra bed days in hospital are counted on top of the medical judgement. This approach was also used in the previous studies such 10, 12, 15, 16 in the references.
3. Corrected;
4. Corrected;
5. Corrected;
6. Corrected;
7. Corrected. The criteria are not mutually exclusive; i.e. one patient can have more than one criterion.
8. All nurses and physicians attended a single meeting lasting 1-day. In this meeting, the aims, methodological strategy, concepts and criteria were
presented and discussed with participants. We believe this does not add value to the text. Regarding your second comment, we included it in the text.