Author’s response to reviews

Title: Costs of hospital care for hypertension in an insured population without an outpatient medicines benefit: an observational study in the Philippines

Authors:

Anita K Wagner (awagner@hms.harvard.edu)
Madeleine Valera (madz_valera@yahoo.com)
Amy J Graves (amy_z_johnson@hphc.org)
Sheila Laviña (shielalavina@yahoo.com)
Dennis Ross-Degnan (drossdeg@hms.harvard.edu)

Version: 3 Date: 24 July 2008

Author’s response to reviews: see over
July 24, 2008

Dr. Mark Todd
Assistant Editor
and Editorial Production Team
BMC-series journals

Dear Dr. Todd and Editorial Production Team,

We are pleased to submit the final version of the manuscript entitled “Costs of hospital care for hypertension in an insured population without an outpatient medicines benefit: an observational study in the Philippines” for publication in *BMC Health Research Policy and Systems*.

As requested, we have made the following formatting changes:

Major revisions: We have formatted all references in the journal’s style, changing superscripts to numbers in square brackets and adjusted the placement of references; corrected the order of references; and deleted duplicate references.

Minor revisions: We deleted the repeated column headings of tables that run over two pages.

When reviewing our manuscript, we noted an error in the classification of two of the ICD-10 codes used in our analyses; erroneously, ICD-10 codes 120.8 and 120.9 were included in “Possible consequences of untreated hypertension” when they should have been included in “Other definite consequences of untreated hypertension” (see Table 1). We corrected this error, which resulted in changes in the number of hospitalizations in the two categories and minor changes in some other numbers (e.g., changes in the first or second decimal place of some confidence interval estimates). These corrections did in no other way change the results of our manuscript, did not change the conclusions, and did only require one minor text edit (instead of “more than US $56 million” on pages 7 and 8, we now say “US $56 million”). We also noted that Tables 5 and 6 were out of order compared to how their content was cited in the text and changed the order of these tables.

We are pleased about the acceptance of this manuscript for publication in *BMC Health Services Research* and thank the editorial team for their review and assistance.

Sincerely,

Anita K. Wagner, PharmD, MPH, DrPH
Assistant Professor
Director, MedIC Course in Pharmaceutical Policy Analysis
Co-Director, Pharmaceutical Policy Research Fellowship