Author's response to reviews

Title: Documentation and Control of Body Mass Index and Associated Risk Factors in a Large Primary Care Network

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Version: 2 Date: 8 June 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
June 8, 2009

TO: BMC Health Services Research
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Dear Editors:

I am writing to submit our original manuscript entitled “Documentation and Control of Body Mass Index and Associated Risk Factors in a Large Primary Care Network” for review.

We feel that our manuscript is appropriate for the BMC audience. In this manuscript we evaluate the implications and impact of the new HEDIS BMI criteria, which we think will be of great interest to the readers of the BMC. Our study uses a large diverse primary care network to evaluate documentation of BMI, and documentation and control of associated risk factors by BMI category. It is timely, especially with the prominence of BMI assessment as a newly proposed reportable HEDIS measure. This measure has the potential to provide a timely quality and safety foundation to improve care for patients with obesity.

The manuscript is not currently under review elsewhere and has not been published in any other peer-reviewed media. All authors have contributed sufficiently to this project to be included as authors, and have read and approved the manuscript. Furthermore, none of the authors have competing interests.

I have revised my paper in light of comments regarding the figure and tables. I have made the labels on the figure more prominent. The three tables that are part of the manuscript have been embedded in the manuscript. The three supplemental tables are left as an additional file.

This work has been presented in poster form at the Regional New England Society of General Internal Medicine Conference in March of 2008, the Massachusetts Medical Society Poster Symposium in April of 2008, where it was the Second Prize Winner for Clinical Research, the Massachusetts General Hospital Clinical Research Day in May of 2008, and the North American Association for the Study of Obesity Annual Meeting in October of 2008.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephanie A. Rose