Author's response to reviews

Title: The Impact of Standardizing the Definition of Visits on the Consistency of Multi-Database Observational Health Research

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

We were contacted last week about our paper to BMC Medical Research Methodology titled “The Impact of Standardizing the Definition of Visits on the Consistency of Multi-Database Observational Health Research”. We have revised the manuscript in relation to the comments about ethical approval and consent, standards and reporting, data availability. Here is what we have changed:

1) Under the Methods-Data Sources section, the last sentence spoke about our IRB exemption. It has been removed from here and moved to its own section.

2) Created a Methods-Ethics section.

3) In the newly created Methods-Ethics section we expanded on our IRB exemption statement. What we specifically added was a comment that this research does not meet the definition of human subject research and the two reference numbers of our exemptions.

4) In the newly created Methods-Ethics section we also added a sentence stating that the data we use is through a license agreement with the data holders.

We thank you for the opportunity to comply with the editorial policies.

Thank you,

Erica A. Voss, MPH