Author’s response to reviews

Title: Community Assessment of COPD Health Care study: a clinical audit on primary care performance variability in COPD care

Authors:
Jose Luis Lopez-Campos (lcampos@separ.es)
Maria Abad-Arranz (marieta.84@hotmail.com)
Ana Moran-Rodríguez (anamoran@comcadiz.com)
Enrique Mascarós Balaguer (enmasba@gmail.com)
Carmen Quintana Velasco (cquintanav66@gmail.com)
Laura Abad Polo (laura.abad.polo@gmail.com)
Sara Núñez Palomo (snpalomo@sociedadgrap.com)
Jaime Gonzálves Rey (gonzalvez.jaime@gmail.com)
Ana Maria Fernández Vargas (anamorronga@gmail.com)
Antonio Hidalgo Requena (ahidalgor1@yahoo.es)
Jose Manuel Helguera Quevedo (josehelg@hotmail.com)
Marina García Pardo (marinagpardo@hotmail.com)

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Editor Comments:

Your response to Major remark 3 of reviewer #4 needs further clarification. Did you apply analysis of variance to test equality of mean values (equality of locations) between the centers or did you test the equality of standard deviations (equality of variability)? Did you apply chi-square test to compare proportions between the centers? Please help your readers and state clearly which hypotheses did you test. Writing "Calculated by Chi-squared test or ANOVA to test for variability" is confusing.
RESPONSE: I have checked these details with our statistician. For the analysis of the quantitative variables we used the ANOVA test, after checking the equality of the variances with the Levene test. If the homoscedasticity assumption was not met, we used the Welch test. For the analysis of the categorical variables, we used the Chi-square test. We have inserted this paragraph in the statistical section.

In addition, please include the total number of subjects in the titles of tables 1 to 3.

RESPONSE: We have included the total number of subject in the titles of the tables, as requested.