Author’s response to reviews

Title: Estimation of utility weights for major liver diseases according to disease severity in Korea

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Editor Comments:

Thank you for your submission to BMC Gastroenterology. I am very sorry for the delay in informing you of our decision.

Before you paper can be accepted for publication, please address the following editorial points:

- Please clarify how consent was obtained - written, oral, etc.?

- Please include a "Declarations" heading after the list of abbreviations.

Response: Thank you for your decision letter. As you suggested, we have clarified the type of consent (oral consent) and include a “Declarations” heading after the list of abbreviations.

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BMC Gastroenterology operates a policy of open peer review, which means that you will be able to see the names of the reviewers who provided the reports via the online peer review system. We encourage you to also view the reports there, via the action links on the left-hand side of the page, to see the names of the reviewers.
Reviewer reports:

Alessandro Vitale (Reviewer 1): I think this is an interesting study calculating utility weights for some major liver diseases health states.

The definition and calculation of utility weights is extremely important to plan adequate cost-effectiveness studies. However, the literature on this particular field is poor.

This study has some peculiarities well underlined and explained in the discussion: a) utility weights of 8 health states related to liver diseases, were estimated in the general population of Korea; b) Utility weights were estimated using direct methods such as VAS, time trade-off, or SG.

I think that the paper is well written, the aim is original, and the methodology adequate.

Response: Thank you very much for reading and commenting on the manuscript.

Quirino Lai (Reviewer 2): This is an interesting study coming from Korea in which utility weights of liver disease-related health states were estimated in the general population. The study is innovative and presents interesting conclusions. The paper is well written and surely deserves direct publication.

Response: Thank you very much for reading and commenting on the manuscript.