Author’s response to reviews

Title: The Integrated Care Pathway for Managing Post Stroke Patients (iCaPPS©) in Public Primary care Healthcentres in Malaysia: Impact on Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALYs) and Cost Effectiveness Analysis

Authors:

Aznida Firzah Abdul Aziz (draznida@ppukm.ukm.edu.my;draznida@gmail.com)
Nor Azlin Mohd Nordin (norazlin8@ukm.edu.my)
Amrizal Muhd Nur (amrizal65@gmail.com)
Saperi Sulong (saperi@ppukm.ukm.edu.my)
Syed Mohamed Aljunid (saljunid@gmail.com)

Version: 3 Date: 08 Jan 2020

Author’s response to reviews:

Response to Reviewer BGTC-D-19-00128R2

Title of manuscript: The Integrated Care Pathway for Managing Post Stroke Patients (iCaPPS©) in Public Primary care Healthcentres in Malaysia: Impact on Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALYs) and Cost Effectiveness Analysis.

Reviewer’s Comment: The authors have improved their manuscript which now sufficiently clearly presents the study conducted. A minor point that might be elaborated is how they derived cost estimates for the care provided. They write: "only three provided complete financial records. Assumptions could not be made to replace the incomplete financial data from other healthcentres as these centres were inhomogeneous in the profile of the staff, location (i.e. urban, suburban or rural), size of healthcentre complex and services available." The question than becomes whether they imputed averages or a complete case analysis? This is not explicitly mentioned. Finally, although rather well written further language editing if possible might still improve the manuscript.

Author's response: Pg 13 lines 19-21

A complete case analysis was conducted for all patients using healthcentre specific financial data at each study site.