Author's response to reviews

Title: Response to cholinesterase inhibitors might affect life-span in Alzheimer's disease

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Author's response to reviews: see over
We hereby submit our original research manuscript entitled “Response to cholinesterase inhibitors might affect life-span in Alzheimer’s disease” for your consideration for publication in *BMC Neurology*.

A heterogeneous response to cholinesterase inhibitor (ChEI) therapy has been observed among patients with Alzheimer’s disease (AD). Whether the differences in response to ChEI, specific drug agent, or dose affect the patients’ life-span is not known. An increased knowledge of factors that influence mortality in AD patients treated with ChEI is required for future assessment of disease-modifying therapies that are to be added to ChEI drugs.

The Swedish Alzheimer Treatment Study (SATS) is a 3-year, prospective, open, nonrandomized multicenter study for the evaluation of ChEI treatment in a routine clinical setting. In this study, we examined 681 deceased SATS patients with a clinical diagnosis of mild-to-moderate AD and investigated the 6-month response to ChEI from different perspectives, e.g., by using cognitive, global, and functional assessment scales. Sociodemographic and clinical factors that may affect the response to ChEI or life expectancy were also investigated in multivariate statistical models. No previously published AD studies have assessed whether the differences in short-term response to ChEI or drug dose are associated with the patients’ length of life.

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Yours sincerely,

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