Author’s response to reviews

Title: Differential glatiramer acetate treatment persistence in treatment-naive patients compared to patients previously treated with interferon.

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Journal: BMC Neurology

14th July 2015

Dear Mr Jhonell De Los Santos,

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled “Differential glatiramer acetate treatment persistence in treatment-naive patients compared to patients previously treated with interferon.” by Fernandez-Fournier et al, currently accepted for publication as a Research article in BMC Neurology.

We have clarified, as requested, the abbreviation TEVA. We have also added a statement to clarify that since this was a retrospective analysis of our Multiple Sclerosis clinical data, using data that was anonymized, patients were not asked to give specific written informed consent.

We thank you for the opportunity to work with you and we thank you for your time. We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. Please address all correspondence to: fernandezfournier@hotmail.com

Yours faithfully,

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The manuscript has been revised and edited for the following:

Editor’s requests:

1. Thank you for providing more details on your study funding in the Acknowledgements section. However, it is not clear from this statement who funded the study. Please clarify, and define the abbreviation TEVA.

Line 336: The word TEVA has been replaced by Teva Pharma S.L.U. Lines 335 – 337 now read “We also want to thank Teva Pharma S.L.U who, when asked, agreed to pay for the article processing charges.”

2. Please add a statement to specify whether written informed consent was obtained from all study participants. If the ethics committee waived the requirement for informed consent, a statement to this effect should be included in the methods section.

This study is a retrospective analysis of our Multiple Sclerosis clinical data so patients were not asked to give specific written informed consent. We have clarified this point in the manuscript.

Lines 132-136: Now read: “This study is a retrospective analysis of our MS clinical data, and has been conducted using data that was anonymized for analysis so specific written informed consent was not obtained from patients. This study has been performed according to the regulations of the Ethics Committee of La Paz University Hospital.”