Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of and Characteristics Associated with In-Hospital Mortality in a Ugandan Neurology Ward

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Response to Reviewers’ Comments (Revision 2):

BMC Neurology- Reviewer and Editor Comments:

Editor Comments:

I appreciate the improvement of the manuscript. Several minor concerns remain. Numbers in comments are in accord with the review of the original (1st) submission.

Response to the Editor: Thank you for your comments. We agree that the manuscript has been substantially improved following the reviewers’ comments.

Reviewer Comments:
Shuichiro Neshige (Reviewer 1):

Reviewer 1, Comment 1: The manuscript has been much improved. It is publishable with minor revisions as followings:

Limitations relevant to Comment 2 and 3 should be stated in the Discussion as the authors already explained in the reply letter.

Response to Reviewer: Thank you for this comment. In the Discussion, page 16, line 373, we have added one limitation to the study relevant to Comment 2. We have stated that we did not collect data regarding deaths following hospitalization. Regarding Comment 3, we have added a limitation to the Discussion, page 17, lines 394-397 that clarifies that we do not have evidence that an item from the patients’ past medical history may have been used in place of a neurological diagnosis when a primary neurological diagnosis was unknown.

Reviewer 1, Comment 2: Explanations relevant to the Comment 4 (issue of occupation or socioeconomics) as the authors stated in the reply letter need to be described to discuss the importance of the results (association between occupation and clinical outcome).

Response to Reviewer: Thank you for this comment. We agree that occupation and socioeconomic status are likely important predictors of clinical outcomes, and have added several lines to explain possible factors that could explain these outcomes (page 12, lines 280-286; page 13, lines 292-294).