Author’s response to reviews

Title: Medical expenses of urban Chinese patients with stomach cancer during 2002-2011: a hospital-based multicenter retrospective study

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RE: BMC Cancer - BCAN-D-17-01441R4

Medical expenses of urban Chinese patients with stomach cancer during 2002-2011: a hospital-based multicenter retrospective study

Dear Rebecca Strong,

We appreciate your thorough review of our paper. We have addressed the comments in the new revision.

Responses to the editor’s comments:

Comment #1: On uploading your revisions, please remove all tracking/highlighting and instead upload a single clean version of the manuscript.

Our response: Thanks for the editor’s suggestion. We have uploaded a single clean version of the manuscript.
Comment #2: Please add a 'Declarations' heading on your declarations section.

Our response: Revised accordingly.

Comment #3: Please visit our submission guidelines and format your article accordingly: https://bmccancer.biomedcentral.com/submission-guidelines/preparing-your-manuscript/research-article. Please include ALL of the following subsections within the 'Declarations' section:

- Ethics approval and consent to participate
- Consent to publish
- Availability of data and materials
- Competing interests
- Funding
- Authors' Contributions
- Acknowledgements
- Authors' Information

Our response: Thanks for the editor’s suggestion. We have formatted our article accordingly. And we have included all of the above subsections within the 'Declarations' section. For the subsection of “authors’ information (optional)”, we have no more additional author information to list, so we choose not to use it.

Comment #4: Authors' contributions (within declarations) - please don’t forget to add the phrase: 'All authors read and approved the final manuscript.'

Our response: Thanks for the editor’s suggestion. We have added the above phrase.
Comment #5: Under 'Ethical approval and consent to participate' (within declarations) please don't forget to add your ethical approval reference number.

Our response: Thanks for the editor’s suggestion. We have added the ethical approval reference number (Approval No. 15-071/998).

Comment #6: Under Funding (within declarations) - please add the phrase: 'The funding body had no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript'. Also, please include your reference number.

Our response: Thanks for the editor’s suggestion. We have added the above phrase. The Cancer Screening Program in Urban China (CanSPUC) has no reference number.

Comment #7: Please improve the resolution of your figures.

Our response: Revised accordingly.

Comment #11: Unfortunately in your ‘Methods’ section the paragraph ‘Thyroid cancer samples and cell lines’ contains potentially identifiable information (age, gender and hospital) which compromise the anonymity of the patients. It is our policy to not publish more than 2 indirect identifiers without consent for publication from participants, as per this paper (http://trialsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1745-6215-11-9). If you wish to include this data we suggest providing the ages as age ranges and removing the gender and hospital names.

Our response: This comment is not for our paper. Please check it.