Author's response to reviews

Title: Comparing databases: determinants of sexually transmitted infections and HIV diagnosis and lack of HIV testing among men who have sex with men

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The changes we made in the revision are the adding of line numbering, a list of abbreviations (page 16), and a statement that the authors have no competing interest (page 16). We have changed Introduction into Background (page 4). Furthermore, we have added information on informed consent and ethics statement (EMIS page 6 lines 133-136, SMON page 6 lines 142-144, SOAP page 7 lines 150-151). In the Netherlands, no ethical review is required for routine surveillance and questionnaires (which do not include biological samples), as long as the information is anonymous and cannot be linked to the participant. Therefore, the Schorer Monitor and SOAP data do not include a body which gave approval and reference numbers.