Author’s response to reviews

Title: Reliever salbutamol use as a measure of exacerbation risk in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

Authors:

Christine R Jenkins (christine.jenkins@sydney.edu.au)
Dirkje S Postma (d.s.postma@umcg.nl)
Antonio R Anzueto (anzueto@uthscsa.edu)
Barry J Make (makeb@njhealth.org)
Stefan Peterson (stefan.peterson@astrazeneca.com)
Göran Eriksson (goran.s.eriksson@astrazeneca.com)
Peter M Calverley (pmacal@liverpool.ac.uk)

Version: 4 Date: 2 July 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
BioMed Central Editorial

Dear Dr Bhatt

Thank you for your email indicating acceptance of our manuscript MS: 1506278429145968: Reliever salbutamol use as a measure of exacerbation risk in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease Christine R Jenkins, Dirkje S Postma, Antonio R Anzueto, Barry J Make, Stefan Peterson, Göran Eriksson and Peter M Calverley

We can assure you that your comments have now been addressed within the revised manuscript submitted with this letter. Below you will find the point-by-point response to the comments made. We hope these responses are satisfactory and look forward to seeing the published manuscript online in due course.

1. Please include the information about AstraZeneca fundings this study into the competing interests section

As requested, we have added a funding statement in the competing interests section on line 323 of the manuscript and deleted the reference to funding that followed the Abstract.

2. Please provide the full list of ethics committees that gave approval for this study. If the list is long, it may be uploaded as an additional file and referred to in the main text

The original study was conducted between January 2007 and August 2009 at 140 study sites in the USA. And, as described in lines 111 to 115, the study protocol was approved by an institutional review board for each study site. These are the US equivalent of ethics committees. However, as this manuscript is based upon a post-hoc analysis of the study, and the review boards approved the original study, but not this analysis, we do not consider that such a list would be relevant to the readers of your journal. Please confirm if this viewpoint is acceptable to you.

Authors’ contributions: please confirm whether all authors approved the final version of the manuscript.

We can confirm that all authors approved the final version of the manuscript and a brief statement to that effect has been added to the Author contributions section on lines 329–330, for clarity.

With kind regards, on behalf of the submitting authors,

Dr Christine Jenkins

Department of Thoracic Medicine

Concord Hospital, Hospital Rd

Concord NSW 2139

Australia Email: christine.jenkins@sydney.edu.au