Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association between dementia and discharge status in patients hospitalized with pneumonia

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Response to the Reviewers’ comments

Dear Dr. Christopher Morrey and Reviewer

Thank you very much for reviewing our manuscript and kindly providing us with the opportunity to revise our manuscript entitled "Association between dementia and discharge status in patients hospitalized with pneumonia" (PULM-D-16-00308R2)
We have addressed your comments with point-by-point responses, and revised our manuscript accordingly. The revised portion of the manuscript were highlighted in yellow and our point-by-point responses to the reviewers’ comments are attached.

We hope that we have addressed all of the reviewers’ comments satisfactorily and made appropriate changes in the revised manuscript. Your kind consideration for possible publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine is highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Taisuke Jo

Editor Comments:

1) Reviewer 1 suggested that you provide an A-DROPS or any severity score rather than the including multiple, individual values.

Thank you for your valuable advice. Instead of each A-DROP item, we showed categorized A-DROP scores in Table 1. Hospitalization is recommended for pneumonia patients with A-DROP scores higher than 3. For those with A-DROP score higher than 4 or BP<90 mmHg, intensive care unit admission is recommended by the Japanese Respiratory Society guidelines. We therefore classified A-DROP score as follows: mild, 0; moderate, 1-2; severe, 3; and most severe, 4-5 or BP< 90 mmHg. We have revised main texts and Table 1.

(P6, line 15-18; P8, line 10)

2) In your Cox Model what about those discharged to other facilities and dead? Have you considered them in your Cox analysis?

In our Cox model, discharge to other facilities and in-hospital death were regarded as censored.

Reviewer reports:

Adrian Ceccato (Reviewer 1): All my points have been addressed, however I should require that authors describe A-DROPS or any severity score in the table 1, this will make be reading easier that each variable individualizing.
We appreciate your advice and amended our manuscript accordingly. Please also refer to the response to the editor’s comments.