Author’s response to reviews

Title: The economic burden of bronchiectasis - known and unknown: a systematic review

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr Hickey

Thank you for your comments on our manuscript. We have addressed the technical comments and the comments from reviewer 2 as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Reviewer comment</th>
<th>Revisions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technical comments</td>
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Please ensure that the email address for the corresponding author matches that which has been listed on our editorial system- currently they differ.

The e-mail address on the editorial system has been changed to match the corresponding author address in the manuscript (line 23).

We note that you have included a ‘Consent for publication’ section in the Declarations. Consent for publication refers to consent for the publication of identifying images or other personal or clinical details of participants that compromise anonymity. Seeing as this is not applicable to your manuscript please state “Not Applicable” in this section.

This has been changed to ‘Not applicable’ (line 412)

In the "Availability of Data and Materials" section, please detail where the raw data supporting your findings can be found (including information found in any supplementary files). If the raw data is publicly available or can be requested, please state that this is the case, and where the data can be found/requested from. Alternatively, if you do not wish to/cannot share your data, please state (in the ‘Availability of data and Materials’ section) that data will not be shared, and state the reason.

This has been changed to 'Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.' (line 414)

-- In the section 'Funding', please also describe the role of the funding body/bodies in the design of the study and collection,
analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

AF, FJ, AU and KW are employees of Bayer and as authors were involved in developing the concept, critically reviewing the systematic literature review and added additional insight as listed in the Authors’ contributions section. (line 439-443)

Please also add a section “Supplementary files” where you list the following information about your supplementary material:

- File name
- Title of data
- Description of data

The details of the supplementary material have been added (line 460)

Please ensure that all additional files are explicitly referred to in the main text.

The supplementary materials are already referenced in the text in lines 124 and 129

- Thank you for providing a PRISMA document. As this document is no longer required at this stage of the publication process, please remove it from your submission’s supplementary files.

This has been done

Reviewer 2

5 The days of hospitalisation (means etc) are still at 2 decimal places which seems a bit exacting - i.e. mean 6.9
days versus 6.91 days - just means that latter figure is easier to forget.

This has been done (lines 223-242)

6    Line 77: 'episodes of exacerbation' to 'exacerbations'

This has been done (Line 77)

7    Line 155: 'an estimated of the resource use' to 'estimate'

This has been done (line 155)

8    Line 342: 'using patient records or claims is likely to underestimate' to 'are'

This has been done (line 342)

I hope that we have addressed your comments appropriately and we look forward to your final decision.

Yours sincerely

James D Chalmers

University of Dundee