Author’s response to reviews

Title: Detection of Early Lung Cancer Among Military Personnel (DECAMP) Consortium: Study Protocols

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dr. Cecilia Devoto
Editor-in-Chief
BMC Pulmonary Medicine

Feb 25th, 2019

Dear Dr. Devoto,
We are submitting a revised version of our manuscript entitled “Detection of Early Lung Cancer Among Military Personnel (DECAMP) Consortium: Study Protocols” for publication as a study design article in BMC Pulmonary Medicine. We appreciate the constructive comments of the editorial board and have addressed their concerns in the point-by-point responses below. We believe the revised manuscript has been significantly strengthened.

Thank you for considering our revised paper for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Regards,

Ehab Billatos, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Boston University
Deputy Director and PI for DECAMP Consortium

Point-by-Point Responses:

1. Please format your abstract to include the following subheadings: Background, Methods, Discussion and Trial Registration.

We have edited the abstract to include the subheadings as specified.

2. Please note that if the date of registration is after the date that the first participant was recruited, you should state that it was ‘retrospectively registered’ in the Abstract.

We have noted under the registration portion of the abstract that these studies were “retrospectively registered”.
3. Under the the Declarations heading be sure to add the following sub-sections:

- Ethics approval and consent to participate
- Consent for publication
- Availability of data and material
- Competing interests
- Funding
- Authors' contributions
- Acknowledgements
- Authors' information (optional)

Please be sure to include the Consent for publications and Availability of Data and Materials sub-sections. For more information on what should be included in these sections please use the following link: https://bmcpulmmed.biomedcentral.com/submission-guidelines/preparing-your-manuscript/study-protocol

We have completed all the sections requested above and will discuss in detail in the points below.

4. Please be sure to include a consent statement in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section of your manuscript.

We have added a consent statement in the ethics approval section and in the consent to participate section of the manuscript (in the methods section).

5. In the funding, please also state the role of the funding body in the design of the study, collection, analysis, interpretation of data, and in writing the manuscript.
We have specified the role of the funding body as relates to this manuscript.

6. The individual contributions of authors to the manuscript should be specified in this section. Please note that all authors should be named by using their initials rather than full names.

The contributions of the authors have been specified.

7. Please provide a section after References where you provide the figure legends for your figure files. For each figure, the following information should be provided:

- Figure number
- Short title of figure in sentence case (required)
- Detailed legend (optional)

Please only include the figure legends in this section, as there should only be one copy of the image graphic as a figure file.

The figures have been numbered with a short title and a detailed legend when applicable. The image graphics have been removed.

8. Please state in the cover letter whether the images depicted in figure 3 are your own or taken from another source. If taken from another source please acknowledge the source in the figure legend, and if it is under copyright also state the written permission given to use and adapt it.

If the above conditions are not met the image needs to be removed. Please note the editors may request proof of permission at any time:

Should you require an alternative source you may wish to try Wikimedia Commons: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page
The image depicted in figure 3 is our own figure and this has been clarified in the cover letter.

9. Please ensure that when you upload your revised submission that it is in the final form for publication. Please remove any tracked changes, colored text, or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.

All tracked changes, colored text, and highlighting have been removed.