Author’s response to reviews

Title: Examining database persistence of ISO/EN 13606 standardized Electronic Health Record extracts: relational vs. noSQL approaches

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However, in your methods, (p.6 lines 114-116) you describe three databases of varying sizes with up to 20,000 EHR extracts that you used for your analysis. This would qualify as the data analyzed as part of your study, and is what needs to be addressed within the "Availability of data and materials".

We have changed the "Availability of data and materials" declaration to state the following:

Availability of data and materials

"The data that support the findings of this study are available from Fuenlabrada University Hospital, Barcelona Clinical Hospital and A Coruña University Hospital Complex, but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and so are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of Fuenlabrada University Hospital, Barcelona Clinical Hospital and A Coruña University Hospital Complex”.

These clinical data are protected by law and consequently we would need permission from these hospitals in order to make them publicly available.
Regarding sharing of source code used for analysis, we have uploaded as supplementary material two files containing the source code used to program the six queries posed to the two kinds of databases: one file contains SQL code to query the MySQL relational DBMS and the other contains the Java code used to query the MongoDB database using MongoDB CRUD operations.

We understand that the SQL queries are considerably complex, due to the special nature of standardized medical information, and that it would be convenient to build an interpreter in order to translate from a simpler SQL version of these queries to these specific setting of them. However, this specific setting is enough for the purposes of our research.

An interpreter to translate from a SQL-like language to MongoDB CRUD operations would also be possible, but it would also be beyond the scope of this paper.