

## **Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** The clinical meaningfulness of ADAS-Cog changes in Alzheimers disease patients treated with donepezil in an open-label trial

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over

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Dear Dr. Le:

As per your request we have added the following statement regarding ethics and informed consent on page 7 of the manuscript:

“All patients and caregivers provided written informed consent. The study protocol was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia, any by the institutional ethics boards at each participating study centre.”

Also, we have removed the trial registration number on page 2. The ACADIE study, as stated in the methods section of the manuscript, was an open-label trial of donepezil not a randomized-controlled trial, and as such is not a registered RCT. The registration number, which is associated with another of my investigator-initiated trials, was clearly added in error when the manuscript was originally prepared for submission. Although we have corrected this in the manuscript, we were unable to remove the corresponding data from the Manuscript Details page and continue with our re-submission in BioMed Central (when these fields were empty, we could not proceed with the submission). I trust this is something that can be addressed at your end.

In addition, the following minor edits were made to the legend for figure 3 on page 19:

“... (scores of 1-3)...” was changed to “... (**ratings** of 1-3)...”  
“... no change 4)...” was changed to “... no change (4)...”

I hope we have now addressed all of your concerns and I continue to look forward to hearing from you about the disposition of our manuscript.

Yours sincerely,

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