

Author's response to reviews

Title: Patient satisfaction and side effects in primary care: An observational study comparing homeopathy and conventional medicine

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Sirs

Thank you for reviewing our paper entitled „ Patient satisfaction and side effects in primary care: An observational study comparing homeopathy and conventional medicine” for publication in BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

We revised the paper according to the comments of the reviewer.

We corrected the mentioned infelicities in the text.

We reanalyzed the data by additionally including educational status and symptom severity as cofactors in the statistical models. However, a preliminary analysis indicated a considerable linear relationship between chronicity and severity of disease and most models showed consequently conversion problems. We therefore omitted severity of disease from the set of explanatory variables.

Including educational status resulted in a change of two p-values:

The difference between groups for complete symptom resolution is no longer statistically significant.

Answers of question 11 of the europep questionnaire (Offering you services for preventing diseases) are not significantly different between groups.

All document changes and corrections are made visible in an accompanying document (Marian_09_rev.doc).

We now resubmit the article for your consideration to be evaluated by the committee of reviewers.

We look forward to your thoughts and comments regarding this article.

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- Yours sincerely

- A. Busato