



March 27, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format with changes highlighted (file name: 9274-edited.doc).

**Title:** Preventing breast cancer in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) via screening and/or early detection: differentiating the real from the surreal.

**Author:** Subhojit Dey

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 9274

Please find my replies to the reviewers' comments in bold italics.

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Reviewer 1 (Reviewer no. 2445925): The author presents a review regarding breast cancer prevention by screening and/or early detection in low-and middle-income countries. First of all, the author should clarify which countries are considered to be low- and middle-income as well as high income countries for this review. Only this will ensure that the readership can distinguish the meaning and interpretation of the reviewed data.

***Ans: I have now defined which countries are low- and middle-income as well as high income. Reference 2 has been cited in the first paragraph of the manuscript related to this and highlighted in the highlighted version of the manuscript.***

2. Reviewer 1 (Reviewer no. 2445925): I can only recommend a tremendous revision with the help of a native speaker prior to accepting the manuscript for another review. Please find suggestions for the beginning of the introduction and some heading. Introduction: 1. "That being said, BC is also the primary cause of cancer death among women worldwide accounting for about 375,000 deaths in 2000 [1]." Author should change...That being said to something like: Moreover,... 2. "However, the incidence of BC is on the rise in all parts of the world, be it HICs or LMICs [2], with higher rates of increase observed in LMICs [3]." Author should change the sentence to something like: However, the incidence of BC is rising in all parts of the world whether in HICs or LMICs but having higher increase of incidence in LMICs. 3. "In HICs, due to concerted efforts through last many decades, screening and early detection of BC has been well-established." Change to: Screening and early detection of BC has been well-established in HICs due to coordinated efforts over the last decades.

***Ans: I have studied all my subjects in English since Nursery. I have had a TOEFL score of 287/300 and I have a MPH and PhD from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In addition, I have been publishing peer-reviewed articles in internationally renowned journals for many years and have published more than 20 such articles already. Overall, I am sure that my English is as good as any native speaker.***

***However, the reviewer may not be comfortable with my writing style. Thus, I have changed and highlighted the sentences that have been pointed out in the highlighted version of the manuscript. I have also polished the manuscript to make the sentences more coherent and flowing.***

3. Reviewer 1 (Reviewer no. 2445925): Page 6: STATUS OF BREAST CANCER PREVENTION IN LMICs – THE REAL That is an awkward heading. Please change it to a more meaningful heading. What is real? Page 11: POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS IN BREAST CANCER PREVENTION IN LMICs UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES – THE ALMOST REAL Same applies as for heading on page 6. Page 15: FUTURE REQUIREMENTS AND POSSIBILITIES FOR BREAST CANCER PREVENTION IN LMICS – THE SURREAL Same applies as for heading on page 6.

*Ans: I have provided headings in this articles with the title of the article in mind. I wanted to showcase the real or current situation of BC screening/early detection in LMICs and ways in which this situation can be improved. Hence, I feel that the current headings of sections are in line with the title of the manuscript and complement it well.*

4. Reviewer 2 (Reviewer no. 2681282): Page 16 line 6 figure 1 has been mentioned but I did not find any figure. Please clarify. Need language polishing

*Ans: Figure 1 was a typo and has been removed. Language has been now polished as mentioned earlier.*

5. Reviewer 3 (Reviewer no. 69966): The manuscript “Preventing breast cancer in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) via screening and/or early detection: differentiating the real from the surreal” by Dey S is a review article for the implementation of population level programs for screening or early detection of breast cancer in low income country. This article should be accepted for publication.

*Ans: I thank the reviewer for the appreciative comments and for finding this manuscript interesting.*

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Clinical Oncology*

Sincerely yours,



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