

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

March 22, 2013

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 2401-Brigo-editorial (revised).doc).

Title: World Journal of Meta-Analysis

Author: Francesco Brigo

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Meta-analysis*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 2401

Dear Editor,

I read with extreme interest reviewers' valuable and thoughtful comments and we really appreciated them. I therefore thank the reviewers for the careful and constructive comments made.

Based on these comments I revised our manuscript addressing all concerns made, and we feel that attention to their concerns has substantially improved the paper.

The language of the manuscript was corrected and the writing edited by a native speaker of English, Dr. Stanley C. Igwe, and I think that it has reached or exceeded Grade A . Hence, I did not choose to have the manuscript edited by any English language editing company.

I do hope that the completely revised manuscript will be reconsidered for publication in your esteemed Journal.

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

1 Reviewer 1 wrote:

This is a nice little editorial on the relevance of meta-analysis in neurological research. In fact, meta-analyses are quite fashionable for the time being. Their strengths are the increase of statistical power. However, the author seems to neglect that meta-analytic research is a research method itself which can bear severe shortcomings. Specifically, the issues of search terms, time periods of published studies, databases used for search, the definitions of inclusion and exclusion criteria of papers, and the statistical methods dramatically influence the results of meta-analyses. For an editorial of the sort presented these issues need to be highlighted to alert the readers to potential pitfalls of meta-analyses and to their research nature in general.

I addressed the above mentioned issues by adding a paragraph: SOME PITFALLS OF META-ANALYSES

2. Reviewer 2 wrote:

I review the letter titled: "Meta-analyses in the wonderland of neurology" and I found several grammatical English issues in the redaction and the thinking about the use of the meta-analysis in the neurology field for the neurologists is poor and the authors didn't provide any proposal or new views of the problem.

The editorial was revised by a native speaker of English, Dr. Stanley C. Igwe, who corrected the grammatical issues.

Furthermore, the manuscript, which was intended as an editorial, hence as an opinion piece expressing some personal point of views derived from personal experience of the editor, was implemented by adding a specific paragraph on pitfalls of meta-analyses and one on the number of meta-analyses published in major neurological journals.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Meta-analysis*.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francesco Brigo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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