

Response to the Reviewers

We sincerely thank reviewers for reviewing our work 'Colorectal Cancer Screening Use among Insured Adults: Is Out-of-Pocket Cost a Barrier to Routine Screening?'

Here are the answers for the comments of reviewers and editor.

Reviewer 00506058

In this study, the authors aimed to identify factors that could limit routine colorectal cancer procedures screening among insured individuals. The study indicated limited financial resources as a main obstacle to routine screening. The study is well designed and data clearly presented.

We would like to thank the reviewer for taking time to review our manuscript and provide positive comment

Reviewer 02445715

Thank you very much for your submission in WJGPT. The manuscript is concisely well organized and presented. But the authors should check the references section again. Please see Instructions to authors. The style, language and grammar is accurate and appropriate, therefore, the manuscript is acceptable as it is after minor references check.

We have updated the manuscript reference as per the journal style

Reviewer 00070517

The manuscript and study is well made and well thought of. This really highlights the need for an affordable way to screen patients at risk for CRC. Although most of the patient variables were accounted for, study would have been more thorough with the inclusion of physician and hospital/facility variables as well. Would it be better if a gastroenterologist convince the patient to have the colonoscopy himself rather than the primary doctor and then refer to the gastroenterologist for the colonoscopy? would a hospital that is in near proximity be better able to entice people to do a colonoscopy and not just the price of it? It would also be great if we compared all the different hospitals

and the costs of colonoscopy at each centre and compare the findings as well. Lastly, a history of a family member ever having a colonoscopy may also shed some light on why some would not have a colonoscopy like bad experience of a loved one, complications from a prior colonoscopy etc.... But all in all, the manuscript will be an excellent addition to our pool of written knowledge.

We completely agree with your thoughtful comments. However, none of this information was available in our database. Therefore, we could not include them in the results. As you said, there is a small pool of written knowledge about the barrier in colon cancer screening and our study results will add significantly on this pool.

Reviewer 01488602

This is a correct manuscript but info is useful only for US readers. In Europe the screening differs and maybe in Asia also. Therefore, authors should clearly specify that their info relates only to the US healthcare system and cannot be translated to other systems.

Great idea!!! We added a sentence about it in the discussion section. Thank you for your useful comment