

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Hepatology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 32897

**Title:** Trend of hepatocellular carcinoma incidence after Bayesian correction for misclassified data in Iranian provinces

### **Answering Reviewers**

First of all I appreciate reviewers for careful reading of the article and providing valuable feedbacks and comments.

#### **Discussing on potential weakness of model:**

The statistical model which is used in this study such as all other statistical models, is subject to some uncertainty as a potential weakness. So a small cluster of HCC cases could be misattributed as patients registering in a neighboring province. But the low cost, high speed and efficiency of this model can compensate small errors. (This explanation was added to the discussion part)

#### **Period under study and financial corrections:**

Cancer incidence data is published annually by Iran's ministry of health but it has some delay and the annual of 2008 was the last available version. Awareness of existence of misclassification error and quantifying that, makes an effort to improve the quality of cancer registry in future. Since a large part of the needs assessments for health facilities is conducted based on registration data, by increasing its accuracy, financial corrections will consequently be made.

#### **Grammatical review:**

The entire text and references was reviewed and grammatical errors were corrected.



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