

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



May 28, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 17162-review.doc).

Title: Nothing like data showing significant death reduction can better support prostate cancer screening

Author: Fernand Labrie

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Clinical Urology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 17162

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

1 Format has been updated

2 Revision has been made in agreement with the suggestions of the reviewers

We are pleased to make the requested changes and provide answer to their comments as follows:

Reviewer No. 1: 00505646.

Many thanks for your kind comments.

Reviewer No. 2: 00468558.

Prostate cancer death is very significantly reduced by screening in the ERSPC and Quebec studies. Each cancer has to be analyzed and deaths calculated separately in line with the treatment used. Otherwise, a very large number of men has to be followed to reach a sufficient statistical power permitting a statistically significant change in overall survival.

Reviewer No. 3: 00505708.

1- It seems difficult to find reasons other than early diagnosis (only time when cure is possible) and treatment which could explain the significantly reduced death rate due to prostate cancer.

- 2- I believe that appropriate reference is made to overdiagnosis and overtreatment (ref 8, Draisma, G., R. Boer, et al. 2003. J Natl Cancer Inst. 95: 868-78; ref 9; Cooperberg, M. R., D. P. Lubeck, et al. 2004. J Clin Oncol. 22: 2141-2149).
- 3- I limited references to the very early studies where true control groups could be used. I believe that the US Preventive Services Task Force was seriously influenced by the US PLCO trial where 85% of the men in the control group have been screened, thus removing the possibility to see an effect of screening in the other arm.

We thank you for providing us the comments of the 3 reviewers who have been kind enough to review our manuscript which I hope meets the standards for publication in the World Journal of Clinical Urology.

Sincerely yours,

Fernand Labrie, MD, PhD
Research Center, the University Hospital of Quebec
Laval University
Quebec City, QC, Canada
Tel: +011-418-653-0055
Fax: +011-418-641-1856
E-mail: FL@fernandlabrie.com