Author's response to reviews

Title: Inter-rater agreement and reliability of the COSMIN (COnsensus-based Standards for the selection of health status Measurement Instruments) Checklist

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Dear BMC team,

We are happy to hear that our manuscript, in principle, is accepted for publication in BMC Medical Research Methodology.

The last concern of the reviewers was about the kappa’s for the multi-categorical nominal data. We have now calculated these kappa’s (i.e. summary intraclass kappa). In order to be consistent with the summary intraclass kappa, we have now changed the formula of the intraclass kappa. Numerical these formula’s are the same.

In addition, we have made two improvements to our manuscript. First, we found one more publication on a reliability study of a checklist (reference 10), which we have added at page 14. Second, we have split Table 2 into one Table of the results for the items on step 3 (now called Table 2) and one table of the results for the items on step 4 (Table 3). Consequently the description of results is changed. We think this may improve the readability of the manuscript.

Yours sincerely,

Wieneke Mokkink