Author's response to reviews

Title: Understanding recruitment: outcomes associated with alternate methods for seed selection in respondent driven sampling

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Dear Dr. Aldcroft,

Please find attached a manuscript entitled “Understanding recruitment: outcomes associated with alternate methods for seed selection in respondent driven sampling”, authored by John. L. Wylie and Ann M. Jolly. We would like to submit this manuscript for possible publication in BMC Medical Research Methodology. We felt this journal was appropriate for your journal as it describes an empirical assessment of different methodologies for carrying out a respondent driven sample. As outlined in our background material within the manuscript, we feel our approach adds to other empirical assessments and comparisons of respondent driven sampling, but is done in a manner which, to our knowledge, has not before been carried out.

We would suggest the following individuals as potential reviewers, all of whom have done previous work on respondent driven sampling comparisons:
1) Nicky McCreesh, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine: nicky.mccreesh@gmail.com
2) Richard G. White, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine: richard.white@lshtm.ac.uk
3) Richard D. Burt, Public Health Seattle and King County: richard.burt@kingcounty.gov
4) William T. Robinson, Louisiana office of Public Health: brobinso@dhh.la.gov

With respect to article-processing charges, the University of Manitoba, the academic institution with which I am affiliated, is a member organization of Biomed Central. Neither I nor my co-author, Ann Jolly, have any competing interests to declare and we have both read and approved the manuscript. This manuscript, or any substantial part of it, is not under consideration by any other journal. The research described in the manuscript was approved by the Health Research Ethics Committee of the University of Manitoba.

Thank you for considering this manuscript.

Sincerely yours,

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