Author's response to reviews

Title: Research activity and capacity in primary healthcare: The REACH study: A survey

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Editor, BMC Family Practice

The REACH Study:
Research Activity and Capacity in Primary Healthcare: A Survey

Dear Editor,

I am pleased to submit a copy of the above paper for review for publication.

There is an increasing need for evidence to support various clinical decisions and practices at all levels of health care. However, traditionally there has been a low level of engagement of primary healthcare professionals with research. Implementation of research findings may be hampered if research is not carried out by those directly involved in primary care.

The REACH study is the first study of its kind in the west of Ireland, examining research and development across many professional groupings within the primary care sector of a single health authority in the west of Ireland (the Health Services Executive Western Region). We examine the factors that may promote or inhibit research activity and highlight the issues that should be addressed in order to encourage and facilitate engagement in research and development within primary care. Further to this, a possible target population of professionals is identified for future research and development strategy.

This article has not previously been submitted to, nor has it been published in, any other journal. All authors have read and agree to the content of this manuscript.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours Sincerely,

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