**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Managing depression in primary care: A meta-synthesis of qualitative and quantitative research from the UK to identify barriers and facilitators.

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**Author's response to reviews:**

Eden Bobier
Journal Editorial Office
(for Dr Susan Smith)
BioMed Central

Dear Eden

Re: Managing depression in primary care: A meta-synthesis of qualitative and quantitative research to identify barriers and facilitators

Thank you for your recent email. We were extremely pleased that the reviewers have recommended publication. We have addressed the associate editor’s comments (cut and pasted in italics below) as follows:

The additional files are not complete so we have not been able to look at this material properly. Please re-submit with your revisions -

Response: We apologise for this. They are both word files of tables with a landscape page set up. When we open them they look fine. We have submitted them again. If they do not work this time, please would you suggest what else we can do?

I also feel your title needs to reflect the UK only aspect of the study. -

Response: We have now amended the title to: a meta-synthesis of qualitative and quantitative research from the UK......

In relation to reviewer 1’s comments. I accept that the controversy surrounding the labeling or diagnosis of depression, particularly mild depression, can be controversial. Your results reflect this but may also be worth emphasizing in the discussion again.

&
The discussion could refer to international literature as there is quite a bit of literature on stepped care for co-morbid depression and arthritis/ diabetes and hypertension by Wayne Katon and his colleagues. These studies also raise the issue of differences between screen detected depression which is often the case in studies involving co-morbidity and clinically diagnosed depression. This would be useful discussion material.

Response: We have expanded our third discussion paragraph to include discussion and references relating to these issues.

Other – we are now able to cite a reference (ref 64) for the UPBEAT study in our final paragraph since an article describing the programme is now in press with your publication.

These changes have been made to the manuscript in track changes as requested. We hope that our changes are satisfactory and look forward to receiving your decision regarding publication.

Kind regards

Elizabeth Barley