Author's response to reviews

Title: "Seeing a doctor is just like having a date": A qualitative study on doctor shopping among overactive bladder patients in Hong Kong

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your and the reviewers’ valuable comments on my submitted manuscript “Seeing a doctor is just like having a date”: A qualitative study on doctor shopping among overactive bladder patients in Hong Kong to your Journal BMC Family Practice. Also, thank you and the reviewers very much for the kind consideration and comments on my manuscript and giving me an opportunity to revise my manuscript for your Journal. I have revised the manuscript according to your and reviewers’ comments. Please kindly find below for my responses to these comments.

1. This manuscript has been revised to conform to the journal style.
2. This manuscript has received professional English editing.
3. Some terms used in the subtitles such as “staff medical benefits” are replaced by “work-provided medical insurance” as suggested by the reviewer. However, I would like to keep the term “lack of perceived needs” in this article. This section mainly explains in what ways that the participants did not feel the need of having a regular primary care doctor. Therefore, keeping this term can best reflect the data.
4. The term “to motivate doctor shopping behavior” is replaced by other words such as “generate”, “induce”, etc.
5. The results and discussion sections have been revised to remove overlapping. Interpretation of data is revised to appear in the discussion section.
6. Primary care doctor shopping remained common even after diagnosis, in seeking treatment for their bladder conditions and also other ailments. The participants shopped for different doctors in an attempt to find a physician who could understand their bladder symptoms, even when seeking treatment for other conditions. (p.8,)
7. The participants were talking in Chinese, which is the same language used in the participant information sheets and consent forms (p.7). The interviews were also conducted in Cantonese Chinese, which is the mother tongue of both the participants and the researcher. (p.8)
8. The questions in the interview question guide used in the interview process
are added in the article. (p.8, p9)

9. The interviews were conducted by the researcher (author). This guaranteed consistency and quality of each interview. This avoided interview inconsistency, and data flaw and inadequacy by appointing outsider person as the interviewer. This benefit is mentioned in the data collection section. (p.8) Although having only one researcher may impose bias and subjectivity in the data collection and analysis, recoding of interviews were performed to overcome this potential limitation. Also, consistency and quality could be better ensured. This limitation with overcoming measure is added in the limitation section. (p.24)

10. As the data collection and analysis of this study was conducted by single researcher, the recoding process was conducted one month after the first coding as cross-analysis in order to eliminate possible subjectivity and bias, and to enhance the validity and reliability of the coded data. This is mentioned in the data analysis section (p.10) and limitation section (p.24).

11. The reason why the researcher (author) got interested in this topic of research is illustrated in the “significance” section (p.6). This adds certain kind of justification in conducting this study to some extent.

12. The beginning part of the “results” section has been made clearer by reinstating the scholarly definitions of doctor shopping that were adopted by the participants instead of using “a, b, and d”. (p.11)

Thank you very much for your and the reviewers’ kind consideration and valuable comments on my manuscript. All these comments enable me to further improve my manuscript. I sincerely hope that this revised manuscript can meet the standard of your Journal. As your Journal enjoys a high reputation and prestigious position in the field of primary health care research, I feel very honorable that my manuscript can be considered to be published in your Journal.

I am looking forward to hearing from your Journal in the near future!

Best regards,

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