Author's response to reviews

Title: Personal continuity and access in UK General Practice: a qualitative study of general practitioners' and patients' perceptions of when and how they matter

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Thank you for your request for further information about the process of consent. The following paragraph has been added to the methods section.

"Initial contact was made by telephone for GPs, and in writing with telephone follow up for patients, and all those approached received a Participant Information Sheet which included information about the study, that participation was entirely voluntary, that withdrawal at any stage was possible, and contact details for an independent advisor. Before each interview, any questions about the study were discussed in full and a consent form approved by the ethics committee signed. At the end of the interview, the participant's willingness for the data collected to be used in the study was verbally confirmed and any further questions about the study discussed."

Yours sincerely,

Bruce Guthrie