**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Nursing home care for people with dementia and residents' quality of life, quality of care and staff well-being: Design of the Living Arrangements for people with Dementia (LAD) - study

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Dear Sir/Madam,

We hereby submit our revised manuscript entitled 'Nursing home care for people with dementia and residents' quality of life, quality of care, staff well-being: Design of the Living Arrangements for people with Dementia (LAD) – study' (first submitted at 25-01-2011) for publication in BMC Geriatrics after correspondence with the BioMed Central Editorial Team.

The editorial team asked us to clarify whether we have external funding and the exemption of medical ethical approval of our study, because of the policy of the journal not to peer review study protocols where ethical and external funding approval have been obtained.

We have therefore clarified that the Living arrangements for people with dementia (LAD) – study is funded by the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare & Sports (email 26-01-2011). Furthermore, we have send information on our exemption from needing ethical approval (email 01-02-2011). The editorial board has confirmed that this is sufficient and asked us to document, within our revised manuscript, whether we receive informed consent from our study participants and whether this is verbal or written.

Finally, we were asked to transfer our manuscript to BMC Geriatrics instead of BMC Public Health because the board feels that our manuscript would be better suited to the scope BMC Geriatrics. We are happy to submit our revised manuscript to BMC Geriatrics and hope you will consider this manuscript for publication since there are not many studies in this field.

The manuscript has not been published, nor is it under consideration elsewhere.

Also on behalf of the co-authors,
Yours sincerely,

Bernadette Willemse, MSc