Author's response to reviews

Title: Perceptions of healthcare professionals regarding the main challenges and barriers to effective hospital infection control in Mongolia: a qualitative study.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
The Editorial Board,
BMC Infectious Diseases

July 09th 2012

Dear Dr Marshall,

Thank you very much for forwarding the reviewers’ comments. We have worked again on our manuscript entitled “Perceptions of healthcare professionals regarding the main challenges and barriers to effective hospital infection control in Mongolia: a qualitative study” and made changes in response to two remaining points raised by the reviewers. Descriptions of each amendment are provided here together with a revised version of our manuscript, which we wish to re-submit for consideration for publication in your journal.

Sincerely yours,

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List of changes made in response to reviewer’s comments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments &amp; Questions</th>
<th>Explanations &amp; Changes</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reviewer # 2. Dr Jacqueline Randle</strong></td>
<td>We have now extended four of the existing quotations and added 5 new quotations to address this issue.</td>
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<td>..and although terms such as data saturation are used, it is difficult to evaluate the study in terms of its credibility due to this inadequate description. This is more relevant when considering the findings and the data offered do not adequately provide the reader with enough information.</td>
<td>Extensions are made in page 6, 7, 16 and 17.</td>
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<td>Frequently, summary text is provided followed by a two line quote. As the team interviewed a high number of participants and data saturation was used, it would have been beneficial to see more of the data as this would strengthen the credibility of the study.</td>
<td>New quotations are added in page 6, 7, 8, 15 and 17.</td>
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<td><strong>Reviewer # 3. Tari Turner</strong></td>
<td>A paragraph on study limitations is now added in the Discussion part and it reads as follows:</td>
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<td>There is no discussion of the limitations of the research. … a reflection on the limitations of the work needs to be added to the Discussion.</td>
<td>This study has the following two main limitations. Firstly, due to resource constraints, the data translation, transcription, coding and quotation selection processes were performed by a single researcher (B-E.I) rather than by two or more investigators. However, the constant iterative discussions within the research team regarding fieldwork experience and analysis maintained the validity of our findings. Secondly, the study examined issues from participants’ perceptions and there is an obvious need to complement and extend the work presented with large scale quantitative and mixed-method investigation that can provide data and findings on a national scale and with statistical significance.</td>
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<td>Discussion, last paragraph.</td>
<td></td>
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