Author's response to reviews

Title: A prospective study of effects of psychological factors and sleep on obstetrical interventions, mode of birth, and neonatal outcomes among low-risk British Columbian women

Authors:

Wendy A Hall (Wendy.hall@nursing.ubc.ca)
Kathrin Stoll (kathrin@interchange.ubc.ca)
Eileen K Hutton (huttone@mcmaster.ca)
Helen Brown (Helen.brown@nursing.ubc.ca)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dr. Cecily Begley  
Associate Editor  
BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth  
Trinity College School of Nursing and Midwifery  
D’Olier Street  
Dublin  

July 9, 2012  
Re: A Prospective Study of Effects of Psychological Factors and Sleep on Obstetric Interventions, Mode of Birth, and Neonatal Outcomes among Low-risk British Columbian Women MS: 1045194310572936

Dear Dr. Begley,

I and my co-authors are delighted with your news that you have accepted our manuscript in principle. I thank you and Dr. Kvist for the very careful examination of our paper. I am writing this cover letter to describe our point by point response to her comments. I will describe the changes I have made in point form.

1. In response to the points about the language in the paper, I have carefully reconstructed sentences in the abstract, on p. 4, on p. 6, and on p. 7.
2. I have rewritten the first sentence in the section on previous work and added the missing word.
3. On p. 15, I incorporated some discussion of potential reasons for our failure to link high childbirth fear to emergency caesarean section.
4. I have added a section on p. 16 about how clinicians could support women to describe their birth experiences and process events.
5. On p. 18, I have added a section at the end of the discussion about the possible implications of our high Cronbach’s alphas.
6. I did a review of recent literature on childbirth fear and incorporated relevant new studies given the length of time that has passed since we first submitted the paper.
I hope that these point by point comments address all of Dr. Kvist’s concerns. I have been through the paper while checking the manuscript formatting list to ensure our paper conforms to the guidelines. As previously, I did not incorporate tables one and two in the paper because they are in landscape format and the instructions indicated any tables must be in portrait format. All authors have contributed to the design and conduct of the study and to the writing of the paper and as such all merit authorship. All authors have seen and agreed the final version of the paper. We have submitted this paper only to your journal and we have no conflicts of interest to declare. We thank your for your kind attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Dr. Wendy Hall