Author's response to reviews

Title: What matters most to people with multiple myeloma? A qualitative study of views on quality of life.

Authors:

Thomas R Osborne (thomas.osborne@kcl.ac.uk)
Christina Ramsenthaler (christina.ramsenthaler@kcl.ac.uk)
Susanne de Wolf-Linder (susanne.1.de_wolf@kcl.ac.uk)
Stephen A Schey (sschey@nhs.net)
Richard J Siegert (richard.siegert@aut.ac.nz)
Polly M Edmonds (polly.edmonds@nhs.net)
Irene J Higginson (irene.higginson@kcl.ac.uk)

Version: 5 Date: 10 June 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Re: What matters most to people with multiple myeloma? A qualitative study of views on quality of life.

We are delighted that you feel this manuscript is suitable for publication in BMC Cancer. As requested, we have reviewed the manuscript against the RATS guidelines for reporting qualitative studies. Following this, we have added more detail on three points, as summarized in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RATS Guidelines:</th>
<th>How has this been addressed?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recruitment</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ask this if the manuscript</td>
<td>This should be included in the manuscript</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was recruitment conducted using appropriate methods?</td>
<td>Details of how recruitment was conducted and by whom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Role of researchers</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the researcher(s) appropriate? How might they bias (good and bad) the conduct of the study and results?</td>
<td>Do the researchers occupy dual roles (clinician and researcher)? Are the ethics of this discussed? Do the researcher(s) critically examine their own influence on the formulation of the research question, data collection, and interpretation?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethics</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Were participants’ anonymity and confidentiality ensured?</td>
<td>Anonymity and confidentiality discussed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We enclose the revised manuscript for your consideration, and hope you find the changes satisfactory. Please let us know if you have any additional comments.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Thomas Osborne (corresponding author)

Visiting Research Fellow,
Department of Palliative Care, Policy and Rehabilitation
Cicely Saunders Institute, King’s College London
thomas.osborne@kcl.ac.uk