Author's response to reviews

Title: Beyond the Clinic: Improving Child Health through Evidence-based Community Development

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear BMC Pediatrics Editor:

We have submitted our manuscript entitled, “Beyond the Clinic: Improving Child Health through Evidence-based Community Development,” that we would like considered for publication in BMC Pediatrics. We feel this original manuscript will be of high interest to the readers of BMC Pediatrics. The primary focus of our paper is a synthesis of the scientific literature of community-level, evidence-based strategies to promote child and adolescent health and wellbeing. We have clarified in the abstract and methods section that our study is a theory-driven and structured narrative review of published systematic reviews.

Promoting child wellbeing necessarily goes beyond the clinic as risks to child health and development are embedded in the social and physical environmental conditions in which children live. Results from our narrative review provide a succinct guide for community pediatric efforts to advance the wellbeing of all children and particularly disadvantage children in a community.

Guided by a comprehensive framework of influences on child health and development, we (1) conducted a comprehensive search of published systematic and meta-analytic reviews of policy-relevant strategies addressing key influences and child health outcomes; (2) evaluated the level of evidence for each of the strategies; and (3) summarized efficacious strategies by conceptual domain, including providing an illustration of a combination of a comprehensive set of strategies and policy briefs for each strategy with community examples.

Given the topic of our article, we would recommend Dr. Gabriel Shaibi as the most appropriate Section Editor. We provide four recommendations for peer reviewers for our article given their research interests and expertise:

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The manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not currently being considered for publication elsewhere. All authors have been personally and actively involved in substantive work leading to this manuscript and will hold themselves jointly and individually responsible for its content. The authors have no financial or other conflicts of interest.

We look forward to your thoughtful review of our work, and consideration of our paper for publication in *BMC Pediatrics*. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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