Author's response to reviews

Title: Supplier-induced demand for psychiatric admissions in Northern New England

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor of Biomedical Central Psychiatry,

Thank you for the thoughtful reviews of our manuscript, “Supplier Inducted demand for psychiatric admission in Northern New England.” It is clear the reviewers were very knowledgeable in the content area and we feel that their comments (which we have addressed) result in much improved manuscript. We respectfully resubmit the revised manuscript for your review.

Sincerely,

Brian Shiner, MD, MPH

The section bellow addresses the specific concerns by the reviewers.

Response to Reviews

Terry Lewin

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) Literature and context: Consider a broader literature in the background.
Response: The Background section has been augmented with citations as recommended by the reviewer.

2) Future Directions: Discussion paragraph describing future directions should more clearly outline the future directions.
Response: We have added an additional paragraph outlining future directions for the geography of inpatient mental health treatment per the reviewers recommendation.

Minor Revisions

1) Limitations: Some space should be devoted to the formulation/assessment of supplier inducted demand-how it could be better quantified-particularly in relation
to mental health.
Response: We have added several sentences to highlight this important limitation.

2) Minor typographical errors.
a. Background: CHMC should be CMHC.
Response: This correction was made.

3) Possible addition to Table 2: Authors might consider adding a couple of extra columns to Table 2. Number of psychiatric beds and beds per 100,000.

4) Data set: Explain in the methods the use of 1997 data set. Add comments in the discussion regarding the possibility that the situation has changed.
Response: We have added a sentence in the limitations about the possibility that things have changed since 1997.

Response: These references were added to the background section.

Lloyd Sederer
No changes

Kotaro Hatta
No changes

Andreas Isidorus Wierdsma
Discretionary Revisions:
1) All psychiatric disorder cost are lumped.
2) Include literature on alternatives to inpatient care.
3) Methods section “Comparison of population-based bed supply admission rate” and “Analysis” overlaps.
Response: These sections were consolidated.

Minor essential Revisions
1) Table 1 should include the denominator for the states.
Response: We have added the total population for the states.

2) Figure 1 does not add much to the methods section whereas a graphical representation of PHSA would be helpful.
Response: Figure 1 has been deleted as suggested.

Major Compulsory Revisions
1) The main research question should be discussed in the context of the vast
body of literature on geographic variation in mental health and service use.
Response: We have added text to contextualize this study into the existing
literature regarding geography and mental health.