Title: Improving communication and practical skills in working with inpatients who self-harm: a pre-test/post-test study of the effects of a training programme.

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

We are very pleased that our manuscript “Improving communication and practical skills in working with inpatients who self-harm: a pre-test/post-test study of the effects of a training programme” is accepted for publication in BMC Psychiatry. Thank you very much!

Please, see below the last revisions we made in our manuscript, we hope they meet your expectations.

Kind regards, also on behalf of all the authors,

Nienke Kool

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Editorial requests:

1. We included a title page.

2. We changed 'Funding' to 'Acknowledgements' on page 18.

We thank both the reviewers for their useful comments which improved our manuscript!

**Reaction on Reviewer 1 (Fredrik A. Walby)**

We are glad our explanation of “lay-expert” is found sufficient, in spite of the reviewer’s preference for another term.

**Reaction on Reviewer 2 (Jo Robinson)**

1. We inserted the word ‘individual’ before participants on page 6 in the sentence 'They in turn recruited the participating wards and participants' as requested.

2. We changed the word ‘variables’ in ‘outcomes of interest’ as requested (page 8).

3. We agree that the description of art objects as ‘a powerful tool’ (in the discussion) is perhaps a bit too strong. We changed this in ‘a useful tool’ (page 14).