Author's response to reviews

Title: Health and social support services to HIV/AIDS infected individuals in Tanzania: employees and employers perceptions

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Author's response to reviews: see over
11th June, 2014

Re: Authors’ Response to Editorial Requests-Manuscript ID: 1352776473119546 titled “Health and social support services to HIV/AIDS infected individuals in Tanzania: employees and employers perceptions”

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We very pleased for the requests from the editorial office. This is to kindly submit our responses to the requests as outlined below.

Request 1: Please supply English language versions of all questionnaires developed specifically for use in this study, and upload them as additional files. If the questionnaires are already available, please supply references and/or links to them.

Response: All questionnaires are attached as additional files in this re-submission as suggested.

Request 2: Please specifically detail the questionnaire validation procedure.

Response: In order to determine whether the questionnaires measured what they were designed to measure, the study adopted the content validation procedure. First, the researchers created a list of items that the questionnaires (for both employees and employers) were expected to measure according to the subject matter. Secondly, the researchers checked all the items (item-by-item) on the questionnaires against the created list of items to ensure that each item on the questionnaires matched with a required measurement for the study and that all information that was supposed to be measured was really measured by the different items. Finally, as mentioned in the revised manuscript, the final versions of the questionnaires were pre-tested in order to assess appropriateness and understandability of the questionnaires’ items.
Request 3: Please confirm in your covering letter that the qualitative component of your study adheres to the RATS guidelines on qualitative research and add a statement to that effect in the revised manuscript.

Response: We confirm that the qualitative part of the research adhered to the RATS guidelines (both in terms data collection and analysis) on qualitative research. A statement to this effect has also been added in the revised manuscript (main v3) under the paragraph on focus group discussions on page 8 of the manuscript.

Kind regards,

T. Kassile
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(Manuscript ID: 1352776473119546)