Author's response to reviews

Title: Attitudes of healthcare workers in U.S. hospitals regarding smallpox vaccination

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Dear BioMed Central Editorial Staff,

We are submitting our revised manuscript, "Attitudes of healthcare workers in U.S. hospitals regarding smallpox vaccination." The revision addresses the points raised by the reviewer, as detailed below. In addition, we rewrote the Discussion and Conclusion, framing them in terms of the current context, now that the vaccination program in question has been underway for about four months.

Responses to the BMC reviewer:

Methods, p5, para 1 (redundant sentence). We eliminated the sentence in question and added the words "(of 22 invited)" to the previous sentence in order to preserve the fact that most of the invited hospitals participated.

Methods, p6, para 1 (response rate should be in Results (at authors' discretion)). We chose to leave the sentence about response rate in the Methods section, as is sometimes done in papers about surveys. To move it to the Results would have required a separate subheading.

Background, p5, para 1 (only one press report cited). We changed the wording to "according to one press report."

Results, p10, para 1 (rounded off percentages not adding to the stated total). We used one more significant digit in the percentages making up "the remaining 39%," such that they now add up to 39%.

Table 1, p18 (typo). The "N" was changed to an "n."

Table 1 (subtotals not adding up to the total number of respondents). A note was added under the table explaining that when the subtotals don't add up to 1,165, it is due to missing answers to some of the questions.

Description of the statistical analysis. We added a sentence to the end of the Methods section stating that a fuller description of the analysis is available on request.

Thank you very much for your consideration.
Sincerely,

W. Katherine Yih, corresponding author