Author's response to reviews

Title: Public Health Preparedness in Alberta: A Systems-Level Study

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December 5, 2006

Dear BioMed Editors:

Thank you for the opportunity to publish our study protocol in BioMed Central Public Health. In the editor’s earlier correspondence, they asked for two changes: 1) a statement regarding ethical approval must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript and 2) a fuller background in the ‘background’ section of your manuscript.

We have addressed both comments. For point 1, we have added the following paragraph to the end of the Methods/Design section (pp. 11-12): “Ethical approval of the research has been granted by the Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board of the Calgary Health Region and University of Calgary, Faculty of Medicine (ID#17873) and of the Capital Health Region and University of Alberta (#B-251005).” For point 2, we have rewritten the background section (primarily through the addition of paragraph 2, page 1, to detail more fully the context/background of the study.

If you have any additional comments, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Spencer Moore, PhD, MPH