Author's response to reviews

Title: The Training Needs of Emergency Department Personnel Regarding Intimate Partner Violence

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Version: 3 Date: 7 September 2007

Author's response to reviews: see over
The Training Needs of Emergency Department Personnel Regarding Intimate Partner Violence

Short Running Title: Training needs on IPV

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Keywords: Knowledge, attitude, health care worker, intimate partner violence, domestic violence

Word Count: 19502 (no spaces)

This article has been written to demonstrate the capacity of healthcare workers dealing with intimate partner violence in Ege University Hospital. It is one of the two university hospitals providing care to Izmir, a city with a population of two and a half million. Another aspect of the importance of the study is that there is no article from Turkey on this topic. In this article we study with doctors (residents from different specialities) and nurses working in the emergency department. This articles’ new contributions to the area can be summarized as:

- While planning a training programme for healthcare workers on IPV, gender roles in society must be involved in the programme in Turkey.
- Attention must be given to the relation between IPV and reproductive health issues and chronic diseases.

The knowledge about legal issues on IPV was found to be low and because of this, its emphasis in the training programme must be strengthened.
Dear BMC Public Health Editors:

We were pleased to further revise our manuscript based on reviewer’s thoughtful and constructive comments. Our detailed replies to each individual comment follow. The response is written immediately below each comment.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely
Aslı Davas

Reviewer: Stacey B Plichta

Minor Essential Revisions
We received professional help from International Science Editing Company to improve the style of written English

Reviewer: Megan Bair-Merritt
Major Compulsory Revisions
We received professional help from International Science Editing Company to improve the style of written English.

Methods/Results
1-The knowledge on clinical finding was examined in two ways. Firstly respondents were asked if they knew the clinical consequences of domestic violence. And secondly a list of health conditions and diseases which could have a relation with IPV prepared and the respondents asked to determine if that health condition would be a consequence of IPV.

For methods section in Table 1 Knowledge on clinical findings of IPV part was changed as

“Content: Following a self evaluation question on their knowledge on clinical findings of IPV, a list of health conditions under 4 main categories: chronic conditions (n=6), acute conditions (n=12), psychiatric diseases (n=8), reproductive health(n=8) adopted from Heise et al. was prepared.

Scoring: Each correct answer was scored as one point. The maximum score the respondents would take was the total item number of each category (eg. for acute conditions it was 12). The respondents score for each category was then converted to a ten point scale scoring by multiplying the original score by ten and dividing it by the maximum score of that category (eg. if the respondent achieved 6 points from the acute conditions category it was converted to 5 in the ten point scale.) The mean scores of each category were calculated by this way.

The use of the term “true” is wrong. Each correct answer was scored as one point. The analyses which was done through accepting the mean knowledge score was satisfactory was taken out, so the percentages. Only t-test analyses were used.

The same corrections were done for the legal knowledge part. It was now as follows

“Content: Following a self evaluation question on their knowledge on legal aspects of IPV seven statements about legal responsibilities and important headings on reporting procedure prepared.

Scoring: Each correct answer was scored as one point. Mean score was calculated.”

Minor revisions:
Abstract
1-We added “in Turkey” at the end of the last sentence of background section.
2-We included the sample size.
3-Results section was changed as follows
“89.5% of the nurses and 71.1% of the physicians declared that they knew the clinical appearances IPV domestic violence. The mean of the knowledge score on legal procedures and the legal rights of the victim was 4.33±1.66 (range 0-7).”

**Introduction**

1-A sentence defining honor murders was added on page four, at the end of the second paragraph.
2-The sentence “in order to increase the response capacity….” was taken out from the text.

**Methods**

1-The sentence (the paper based survey was handed to physicians….) was moved to the end of the content of the questionnaire items section.