Author's response to reviews

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

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

Short Running Title: Training needs on IPV

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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

To the Editors:
1- Our study didn’t require any ethical approval.
2- We have changed the background section of the abstract as follows;

“Violence against females is a widespread public health problem in Turkey and the lifetime prevalence of IPV ranges between 34 and 58.7%. Health care workers (HCW) sometimes have the unique opportunity and obligation to identify, treat, and educate females who are abused. The objective of this study was to evaluate the knowledge, attitudes, and experiences of the emergency department (ED) staff regarding intimate partner violence (IPV) at a large university hospital in Turkey.”

Reviewer: Megan Bair-Merritt
Minor Essential Revisions
1- We have changed the title as “The Training Needs of Turkish Emergency Department Personnel Regarding Intimate Partner Violence” according to your suggestion.
2- The explanation as (1=not violence through 5=severe violence) was added to the first sentence of the part “knowledge on definition of IPV”.
3- The first sentence of the second paragraph of the part “knowledge on definition of IPV” changed as “The effect of gender for each group of scores on each types of violence which was sub-categorized as sexual, physical, emotional, and economic was evaluated.”
4- We have added a part in the sentence to explain the difference as “When asked about current screening practices, 63.9% of the study group declared that they included questions about IPV when they worked with an injured patient, but when we examined the frequency of screening only one-fourth of the study group stated that they screened each case of injury from this point of view.
5- We put the Likert scale on table2.