Author's response to reviews

Title: Parental knowledge and attitudes on paediatric vaccination

Authors:

Eva Borràs (eva.borras@gencat.cat)
Angela Domínguez (angela.domínguez@ub.edu)
Miriam Fuentes (m.fuentes@ub.edu)
Joan Batalla (joan.batalla@gencat.cat)
Neus Cardeñosa (neus.cardenosa@gencat.cat)
Antoni Plasencia (antoni.plasencia@gencat.cat)

Version: 2 Date: 17 September 2008

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Assistant Editor,

We hereby resubmit the manuscript entitled “Parental knowledge and attitudes on paediatric vaccination” (MS: 2133902692220593) for possible publication. We thank the reviewer’s for their suggestions. We also enclose a detailed response to the reviewer’s concerns.

1. The survey reported in this manuscript was carried out in 2004. Can you please explain why there has been such a delay in reporting these results?

As the reviewer states, the study began in October 2003 and ended in September 2004. However, publication was delayed for two reasons. Firstly, we allowed a margin of time for parental responses, as parents had to send a photocopy of the child’s vaccination card. Secondly, this study formed part of a doctoral thesis which was not finished until July 2006. This, together with subsequent revisions has resulted in the delay.

2. You have indicated in your manuscript that you used a ‘standard questionnaire’, which suggests that it has been validated / used elsewhere - it is not clear from your manuscript what questionnaire this was, and whether or not it has indeed been reported in the literature. Can you please provide a reference in your manuscript, linked to the validated use of this questionnaire and also provide a copy of the questionnaire with your manuscript.

The questionnaire was designed based on other questionnaires [1-5] previously used for the same objective. A pilot study was carried out in 10 mothers in order to determine whether the questionnaire was understandable and practicable. Questions that presented difficulties were modified.


3. Please can you also document the name of the ethical committee / board that granted you permission to perform this investigation; you will need to include this information in the Methods section of your manuscript.
We now state “The study was approved by the Bioethics Committee of the Department of Health, Generalitat of Catalonia.”

All Authors have seen and approved the manuscript and have contributed significantly to the work. On behalf of all the authors, I state that the manuscript has not been published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere.

With best regards,

Eva Borràs López

Barcelona, 10 September 2008

Corresponding author:

Eva Borràs López

CIBER Epidemiología y Salud Pública (CIBERESP), Spain

Directorate of Public Health, Department of Health. Generalitat of Catalonia

Roc Boronat, 81-95

08005 Barcelona, Spain

Tel: 34 93 5513900

e-mail: eva.borras@gencat.net