Author's response to reviews

Title: The vicious cycle of dental fear: exploring the interplay between oral health, service utilization and dental fear

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr Jo Appleford,

Thankyou for accepting this manuscript for publication in BMC Oral Health. I also would like to thank both Reviewers for their reports and suggestions and for their time in reviewing thiss manuscript.

Neither Reviewer listed any major compulsory revisions or minor essential revisions. Dr Eli pointed out (as a discretionary revision) that Figure 1 is redundant, however I prefer to retain the figure as it provides a strong visual aid to envisaging the model. Dr Carlsson provides three worthwhile discretionary revisions which have all been added to the paper. The first point is dealt with by the addition of a sentence in the Introduction (page 4). The second point is dealt with by the addition to a sentence in the Discussion (page 16), while the third point recevies a new paragraph to address it also in the Discussion (pages 18-19).

Again, we would like to thank the Reviewers for their time and input.

Kind regards,
Jason Armfield