Author's response to reviews

Title: Variation in NHS utilisation of vault smear tests in women post-hysterectomy: A study, using routinely collected datasets.

Authors:

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Version: 2 Date: 11 March 2008

Author's response to reviews:

Dear BioMed Central Editorial Production Team,
Thank you for your recent email, we have pleasure in submitting the revised manuscript as per your instructions, we address each point by point as requested.

Formatting changes requested

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Full-stop/Period ¿ Please remove this from the end of the title in the manuscript and submission system. - Done

Author list - The list of authors in the manuscript should be written exactly as they are in the submission system. The authors (forename, initial (if any), surname) should be written identically and in the order in which they are listed in the submission system.- Done

Author list ¿ Please remove titles from the list of authors (e.g Dr / Professor) - Done

Please list the authors email addresses separately from the author list below the corresponding author details. - Done, we hope that we have interpreted this instruction correctly.

Ethical approval - Please place this in the main methods section of the manuscript only. - Done, deleted from the Abstract.

Abstract - Abstracts must be structured into Background, Methods/Design, Discussion. Please remember to also update the Abstract details on the submission page. - This was the structure we had used, but we have added '/Design' to the Methods title.

Manuscript sections - Manuscript sections should include (in the following order): Abstract; Background; Methods/Design; Discussion; Abbreviations (if any); Competing interests; Authors' contributions; Acknowledgements; References;
Figure legends (if any); Tables (if any); Description of Additional files (if any). - Done (no additional files other than the Figure legends)

Tables ¿ Please move the tables to a position after the references. - Done

Diagram 1 - Please rename this to ‘Figure 1’ and cite it in the text as such and upload this as a figure in the submission system and provide a legend with the title for it after the references in a section called ‘Figure legend’. - Done

Figure cropping - It is important for the final layout of the manuscript that the figures are cropped as closely as possible to minimise white space around the image. Our online figure guide contains full details for preparing files for submission and can be viewed here: http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/figures - Done, although this was originally deliberately done within Word to avoid the problems of separate files.

Abbreviations - Please provide your abbreviations in paragraph format. - Done

Competing interests - If there are none to declare, please write `The authors declare that they have no competing interests`. - Done

Section headings ¿ Please use sentence case for all headings and sub-headings in the manuscript (i.e. remove all unnecessary capitals). For example Competing interests not Competing Interests. - Done

Authors contributions -> Authors' contributions - Done

We hope that this is satisfactory.

Kind regards

Dr Helen J Stokes-Lampard, Dr John Macleod, Prof Sue Wilson.