Author's response to reviews

Title: Determinants of physician empathy and possible interventions for its promotion: Hypothetical conclusions from an exploratory, qualitative survey with practicing physicians

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Submission of revised manuscript

Dear Mr. Ulep,

Thank you for your e-mail message of January 7, and your comment on the missing statement of ethical approval. In this revised version of the manuscript, we have made the following changes:

**Requesting ethics statement** We have added a subsection titled “Ethics statement” to the “Methods” section. We explain our ethical considerations and state that the current practice and legislation in Germany do not require formal ethical approval for the type of study we conducted.

**Further changes** We noted that some wording was not appropriate, and we added more references. Our results and conclusions were not affected by these changes.

We hope our manuscript now meets all requirements and can be considered...
for publication.

Yours sincerely

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