Author's response to reviews

Title: Qualitative thematic analysis of consent forms used in cancer genome sequencing

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Version: 2 Date: 16 June 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
JUNE 16TH, 2011

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Re: Article Submission

Dear Mr. Aldcroft,

We are re-submitting for your consideration MS: 1055309048534935, previously entitled 'Managing ethical, legal, and social issues in cancer genome sequencing research: a survey of current practices', and now entitled 'A qualitative thematic analysis of consent forms used in genome sequencing'. In response to comments from the referees, we have made a number of significant improvements to our manuscript. As per Dr. Eduardo Rodriguez's recommendation, we have added reference to international ethical guidelines on human genetic research. More significantly, in response to Dr. Robin Fiore's comments, we have increased our response rate from 23.6% to 71.4%. Where we previously had analyzed thirteen documents, we have now analyzed thirty. This larger sample size has allowed us to perform a more complete analysis of trends that are occurring in genome sequencing research both over time and across jurisdictions. We believe that these various changes more than adequately respond to the comments made by our reviewers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

William D Foulkes MBBS PhD

Professor, Departments of Medicine, Oncology, Human Genetics and Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Director, Program in Cancer Genetics, Departments of Oncology and Human Genetics, McGill University