Author’s response to reviews

Title: Development process and initial validation of the Ethical Conflict in Nursing Questionnaire

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Mr. Adrian Aldcroft,

We are most grateful for your reviewer’s useful comments. Please, find below the detailed modifications we have made and the answers to the questions you have posed.

1. Questions and modifications suggested by Ms. Joan Finegan Ph.D.

Discretionary Revision
- Following Ms. Finegan Ph.D.’s suggestions, we have eliminated the previous Table 2.

Minor Essential: Regarding the correlation of IEEC and moral state, we add on the manuscript the following questions:

- We have included the execution of the test analysis of variance in the statistical analysis section.
- At the end of the results, following Finegan Ph.D.’s suggestion, we have included some comments on the correlation between variables ‘type of conflict’ and ‘IECE’. We believe that with this new information the article continues dealing with the development and initial validation of ECNQ-CCV and it also clarifies the variable behaviour within the theoretical model. The latter information helps to prevent possible doubts on the issue and leads interested researchers towards future publications which describe in detail the process of empirical validation of the model.
- We have extended the conclusion section to explain the findings with data concerning the relationship between variables ‘IECE’ and ‘type of conflict’.
- Regarding the correlation between I’EC’E’ and ‘type of conflict’, we can affirm that the effect size could explain between 60 % and 30% the global variability of the type of conflict.

We are most grateful to Ms. PhD Finegan for her suggestions as they help to clarify the model proposed in the research. However, we would like to say that our main goal in this article is to describe the development and initial validation of the questionnaire. As we explain in the article, since, both the reliability and validity tests are carried out on the basis of the quantitative variable IEEC, we think we should focus more on ECNQ-CCV psychometric aspects and its characteristics. We understand that the statistical validation of the model will have to be described in a separate article, due to its theoretical and methodological complexity. We are pleased to inform you that we are working and finalizing this second article for publication.

Finally, we reaffirm our gratitude for your reviewer’s useful comments and we thank the BMC Medical Ethics Journal for the opportunity to make changes in the manuscript. We hope that you will find our revised manuscript suitable for publication and we look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Falcó-Pegueroles, PhD, MHSc, RN

Barcelona (Spain), 2th April 2013