Author's response to reviews

Title: Perceived barriers of heart failure nurses and cardiologists in using clinical decision support systems in the treatment of heart failure patients

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Dear editor of the journal ‘BioMedCentral’, Medical informatics and Decision making,

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled ‘Perceived barriers of heart failure nurses and cardiologists in using clinical decision support systems in the treatment of heart failure patients’. We would like to submit this article for publication as a full article in the BMC Medical informatics & Decision making. The manuscript, or part of it, has neither been published (except in the form of abstract or thesis) nor is currently under consideration for publication by any other journal.

In this article we describe the present of perceived barriers to use clinical decision support systems (CDSSs), of cardiologists and heart failure (HF) nurses. In our study we found that cardiologist and HF nurses have perceived barriers in working with CDSS in all of the examined constructs. We believe that this article is unique because this is the first study that examined the amount of perceived barriers in cardiologists and HF nurses, working in the field of HF and explored whether demographic, educational and/or computer experience is related to the amount of perceived barriers on working with a CDSS. In earlier studies age and poor computer skills were described as potential barriers. In our study we found no influence of these factors, but we did find other important barriers on the use of CDSS.

Insight and understanding about these barriers is important because the implementation and use of CDSS in HF care is a significant tool to optimize the HF medication management according to the recent guidelines. It is generally known that optimal medication management in HF patients, reduce readmission and mortality rates.

On behalf of my co-authors, who have all seen and approved the final version of this manuscript, I hope you will consider the paper for publication in the BMC Medical informatics & Decision making. We are open for any comments of the reviewers that will strengthen the paper.

Sincerely, on behalf of professor R. Jorna,

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