Author's response to reviews

Title: Nurse Forecasting in Europe (RN4CAST): Rationale, design and methodology

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Nurse Forecasting in Europe (RN4CAST): Rationale, design and methodology
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Dear Sonia Aguera,

I submit a revised version of the manuscript ‘Nurse Forecasting in Europe (RN4CAST): Rationale, design and methodology’, to ‘BMC Nursing’.

We prefer not to include a list of hospitals that participated in the study within the manuscript. Some of the project leads of the participating countries (e.g. Poland, Switzerland, Ireland) did make (in)formal agreements with hospital administration to not disclose their names. In order to respect these agreements we’ve kept the original statement on ethical approval in the manuscript. However, we added the following sentence “Prove of the ethical approvals have been submitted to the editorial board of this journal for verification.”

The researchers who were involved in the study design are included as co-authors. In addition, we would like to ask you, in case of acceptance, to include “The RN4CAST consortium” as last author. The RN4CAST group consists of: Sermeus Walter, Van den Heede Koen, Bruyneel Luk, Lesaffre Emmanuel, Diya Luwis (Belgium, Catholic University Leuven); Aiken Linda, Smith Herbert, Cheney Timothy, Sloane Douglas (USA, University of Pennsylvania); Kinnunen Juha, Ensio Anneli, Jylhä Virpi (Finland, University of Eastern Finland); Busse Reinhard, Zander Britta (Germany, Technical University Berlin); Mantas John, Zikos Dimitrios (Greece, University of Athens); Scott Anne, Matthews Anne, Staines Anthony (Ireland, Dublin City University); Stromseng Sjetne Ingeborg (Norway, Norwegian Knowledge Center for the Health Services); Brzostek Tomasz, Kózka Maria, Brzyski Piotr, Przewoźniak Lucyna, Ksykiewicz-Dorota Anna (Poland, Jagiellonian University Medical College); Moreno-Casbas Teresa, Fuentelsaz-Gallego Carmen, Gonzalez-María Esther, Contreras-Moreira Monica (Spain, Institute of Health Carlos III); Tishelman Carol, Lindqvist Rikard, Runesdotter Sara, Smeds Lisa (Sweden, Karolinska Institute); De Geest Sabina, Schubert Maria, Schwendimann René (Switzerland, Basel University); Heinen Maud, Schoonhoven Lisette, van Achterberg Theo (The Netherlands, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre); Griffiths Peter (England, University of Southampton); Ball Jane, Jones Simon, McIntosh Brian, Rafferty Anne Marie (England, King’s College London).

Sincerely yours,

Koen Van den Heede