Author's response to reviews

Title: Estimating travel reduction associated with the use of telemedicine by patients and healthcare professionals: proposal for quantitative synthesis in a systematic review

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Author's response to reviews:

We addressed the reviewer's previous comments on this issue in some detail. In these further comments the reviewer states "I agree with the author's response". The reviewer also acknowledges that the issue raised is a minor point.

But the reviewer asks "Please make it clear the appropriate criteria under each heading" suggesting that "Even this is a minor point, it can affect to the validity of the review results."

It appears that the point at issue may come down to a question of terminology. Although the assessment of study design and quality has been widely employed, including in Cochrane reviews, we have replaced "study design" with "reliability of data" at appropriate points in the text, in order to meet the reviewer's request.