Author's response to reviews

Title: How much time do nurses have for patients? A longitudinal study quantifying hospital nurses' patterns of task time distribution and interactions with health professionals

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Dear Editorial Team,

We have submitted our updated manuscript and addressed each of the issues below:

Formatting changes to be made:

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Major revisions (we require the author to make these changes)

Affiliations: Each affiliation should be written in full, in the following format: Department, Institute, (Street), City, (Postal code), Country. This may mean repeating institutional addresses if the authors are from different departments within an institution.

We have provided the details required.

Abstract: please provide a short Abstract of up to 350 words, giving a description of the findings of your article. This should be identical in the manuscript and the submission system.

WE have shortened the abstract which is now 348 words.
Authors’ contributions: Please indicate that all authors read and approved the final manuscript.

We have added this statement to the authors’ contributions.

Figure legends: please provide figure titles and legends in a section entitled 'Figure legends' directly after the reference list. Figure titles should be concise and be the first sentence of the figure legend.

We have added this title to the list of figure titles provided.

Tables: tables must be created using a Tables tool, and should not be linked files, figures, or generated with tabbed text. Tables must be divided into rows and columns. Please ensure that text alignment in columns is clear and consistent. We recommend the MS Word auto-format template: simple 1. Please do not include vertical lines in your tables.

We have converted all tables using the MS word simple 1 template.

Minor revisions (we can make these changes for you, although it will speed up publication of your manuscript if you do them while making the major changes above)

References: please provide the full citation details for reference 3. You can view the BMC reference guide at the following link http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcgenet/ifora/#references

We have corrected this reference

Figure Legends: Please place a heading 'Figure legends' above your figure legend section.

Corrected

Tables: we are unable to display shading and colours within the tables. Can we therefore ask you to use another method of highlighting the shaded text e.g. by making it bold.

We have converted all tables using the MS word simple 1 template.

Figures: It is important for the final layout of the manuscript that the figures are cropped as closely as possible to minimise white space around the image. Our online figure guide contains full details for preparing files for submission and can be viewed here: http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/figures

We have checked and these are all cropped as closely as possible.

Typography: Please take this opportunity to check your manuscript for any typographical errors and to make any final corrections or revisions. This is the
final proofing stage for your manuscript, and you will not be able to make any changes after acceptance.

We have proofed the manuscript.

Yours Sincerely

Johanna Westbrook