Author's response to reviews

Title: Health worker preferences for community-based health insurance payment mechanisms: a discrete choice experiment

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Dear Editors,

We are herewith resubmitting our paper “Health worker preferences for community-based health insurance payment mechanisms: a discrete choice experiment” for consideration for publication in *BMC Health Services Research*.

The original paper was submitted on January 2nd, 2012. In response to the request made by the Journal Editorial Office on January 5th, 2012, our revised draft now includes an additional paragraph in the Methods section describing the ethical clearance obtained for the study presented in the paper.

Our study reports the results of the first discrete-choice experiment to elicit health-worker preferences for provider payment mechanisms in the context of a community-based insurance (CBI) in Africa. The study was motivated by qualitative evidence, suggesting widespread dissatisfaction with provider payment in the CBI *Assurance Maladie à Base Communautaire* (AMBC) in Nouna, Burkina Faso. The preferences elicited in the experiment have led to substantive reforms of provider payment mechanisms in the *AMBC*, including a change in payment frequency, introduction of consultation fees, and a results-based financing component linked to population enrolment and retention in the CBI.

Our study should be of broad interest to health economists and policy makers working on establishing and improving provider payment mechanisms to achieve health-system objectives.

The paper has not been published elsewhere; it has not been accepted for publication; and it has not been submitted elsewhere. We would like to suggest the following colleagues as potential reviewers of our paper:

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Sincerely,

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