Author's response to reviews

Title: Preferences for working in rural clinics among trainee health professionals in Uganda: a discrete choice experiment

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear Dr. Ridde,

Thank you for your letter of June 20, 2012 requesting a third revision and resubmission of our paper, “Preferences for working in rural clinics among trainee health professionals in Uganda: a discrete choice experiment.” On behalf of my co-authors, I am resubmitting the revised paper, with highlighted edits. In this cover letter, I address the comment of the Associate Editor. Please let me know if you have further questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Peter Rockers
Associate Editor's Comments:

Please ask the authors to elaborate few sentences in order to answer the following comment of the reviewer 1 that I found important:

“There is only one issue that I feel was left partially answered and further input would be welcomed. It refers to the literature on DCE in developing countries. While the authors briefly mention the issue in their Conclusions, they don't really explain what DCE has considered to have some additional limitations when conducted in developing vis-a-vis developed countries. I think the readers would be interested in reading this part both in the introduction as well as among study limitations. Also, it could be an occasion for the authors to explain how they addressed in their own study some of these challenges.”

Response: we have expanded a bit on our previous response to this reviewer’s comment. We now include discussion of the challenges of ensuring the policy relevance of DCEs for HRH (in addition to other challenges, including those related cultural differences) in developing country settings. Further, we explain how we addressed these challenges in our work in Uganda.