Author's response to reviews

Title: A cross-national survey on patient safety culture: Japan, Taiwan and the U.S.

Authors:

Shigeru Fujita (sfujita@med.toho-u.ac.jp)
Kanako Seto (setokana@med.toho-u.ac.jp)
Shinya Ito (s1007m09@med.toho-u.ac.jp)
Yinghui Wu (cutesun_712@hotmail.com)
Huang Chiu-Chin (cchuang@must.edu.tw)
Tomonori Hasegawa (tommie@med.toho-u.ac.jp)

Version: 2 Date: 13 July 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir,

Thank you for your indications. We have taken all these comments and suggestions into account in the revised version of our paper as follows:

1. Ethics statement

Research involving human subjects (including human material or human data) that is reported in the manuscript must have been performed with the approval of an appropriate ethics committee. Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html). A statement to this effect must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate.

According to the code of ethics for epidemiological survey in Japan, the approval of ethics committee is not required if it is an anonymous and self-administered survey with no intervention or mental anguish due to the reply. Then we added following sentence. (Method, Page 5, Lines 3-7)

“According to the “Ethical Guidelines for Epidemiological Research” which was drawn up by Japanese government, the approval of ethics committee was not required because it was an anonymous and self-administered survey with no intervention or mental anguish due to the reply.”

2. Competing interests

Manuscripts should include a 'Competing interests' section. This should be placed after the Conclusions/Abbreviations. Please consider the following questions and include a declaration of competing interests in your manuscript:

We added following sentence. (Competing interests, page 14, Lines 1-2)

“Competing interests
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.”
Looking forward to hearing from you.
Yours truly,

(On behalf of the authors)
Shigeru Fujita
Department of Social Medicine,
Faculty of Medicine, Toho University.
5-21-16 Omori-nishi, Ota-ku,
Tokyo 143-8540, Japan
Tel: +81-3-3762-4151 ext.2415
Fax: +81-3-5493-5417
e-mail: sfujita@med.toho-u.ac.jp