Author’s response to reviews

Title: The provision and need of social support among adult and pediatric patients with tuberculosis in Lima, Peru: a qualitative study

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Author’s response to reviews:

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Dear Editor(s),

We are glad that the reviewers are pleased with the substantial revisions made to the previous manuscript – we certainly feel that the revised manuscript was improved. Regarding the new reviewers’ comments, one of the reviewers pointed out that one of the quotes was awkward – reading it again, we agree it didn’t make sense as it was. Thus, we changed the sentence from:

“Another patient and her child, both in treatment for TB, described how her sister would tell her: ‘You are contagious. Leave your glass, your plate, your spoon,' and would also not let her nephews and nieces play with her child.”

to:

“Another patient, who was in treatment for TB with her child, described her sister’s distancing words and actions: reminding other family members they were contagious and to avoid sharing eating utensils with them, and not letting her nephews and nieces play with the patient’s child.”

This reviewer also commented on the awkwardness of using the term HIV/TB vs. TB/HIV. As we checked the entire document, we realize we used the terms inconsistently – these are all now “TB/ HIV”, as suggested by the reviewer.

These were the only two comments that we received in this second round of revisions.

Finally, we are not sure if the funding acknowledgements go in a separate section or can be included in the acknowledgements section, but we need to include the following statement (and have not done so yet in the document):

“This research was made possible through the funding of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)
under award R01 AI049139-04S1 (PI: Dr. Richard Oberhelman, supplement granted to Dr. Paz Soldan), as well as the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the NIH (Minority Health International Research Training grant number T37 MD001424, PI: Dr. Richard Oberhelman) which funded Ms. Alban’s efforts, and the Tulane University Stone Center for Latin American Studies and Tinker Foundation Summer Field Research Grants which funded Ms. Dimos’ efforts. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.”

Thank you again for your consideration.

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