Author’s response to reviews

Title: Impact of a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program on Health Care Utilization in Rural Communities: A retrospective cohort study using linked administrative data

Authors:

Susan B Jaglal (susan.jaglal@utoronto.ca)
Sara J.T. Guilcher (sara.guilcher@utoronto.ca)
Gillian Hawker (gillian.hawker@wchospital.ca)
Wendy Lou (wendy.lou@utoronto.ca)
Nancy M Salbach (nancy.salbach@utoronto.ca)
Michael Manno (mmanno@ohtn.on.ca)
Merrick Zwarenstein (mzwarens@uwo.ca)

Version: 3
Date: 27 March 2014

Author’s response to reviews: see over
March 27, 2014

Dear Dr. Carole A. Estabrooks

RE: MS 2125913370112999

Thank-you very much for accepting our manuscript, “Impact of a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program on Health Care Utilization in Rural Communities: A retrospective cohort study using linked administrative data” to be published in BMC Health Services. We have addressed the editor requests and highlighted the changes below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Editorial Requests</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Consent</td>
<td>We have confirmed that we obtained explicit consent either verbally or written to link to administrative data. We added the following sentence &quot;Verbal and written consent were obtained for follow up evaluations with data linkage.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Abstract</td>
<td>We revised the abstract as requested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Conclusions</td>
<td>We added a Conclusions section.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Title page</td>
<td>We have confirmed that all authors email addresses and institutional addresses are present on the title page.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Background</td>
<td>We have changed &quot;Introduction&quot; to &quot;Background&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Authors’ Contributions</td>
<td>We added the following to the authors’ contributions: CONTRIBUTOR’S STATEMENT SJ took primary responsibility for the design of the study, the acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data, and drafting and revising the article. She gave final approval of the version to be published. She accepts full responsibility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
for the work and the conduct of the study, had access to the data, and controlled the decision to publish. SG took primary responsibility for the design of the study, the acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data, and drafting and revising the article. GH, NS, and MZ provided advice and direction for the study design and contributed to data interpretation. They revised the article critically for important intellectual content. WL provided advice and direction for the study design, statistical analyses and contributed to data interpretation. She revised the article critically for important intellectual content. MM provided advice and direction for the study design and contributed to data analysis and interpretation. He revised the article critically for important intellectual content. All authors read and approved the manuscript.

Sincerely,

Dr. Susan Jaglal