Author's response to reviews

Title: Decision-Making Factors Affecting Different Family Members Regarding the Placement of Relatives in Long-Term Care Facilities

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr/Mr/Ms:

On behalf of all authors, I appreciate the time and effort of the editor and reviewers in critiquing our work (Manuscript Title: Decision-Making Factors Affecting Different Family Members Regarding the Placement of Relatives in Long-Term Care Facilities). Attached is a point-to-point response to Reviewers’ comments. We re-submit this manuscript for re-consideration for publication in BMC Health Services Research. Thank you for your great effort on our work.

Yours sincerely,

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Abstract

Background:
This study investigates the decision-making processes of different family members regarding the placement of family members in long-term care (LTC) facilities. The objective was to investigate correlations between family members’ personal traits, the conditions of residents living in LTC facilities, and family members’ experiences with LTC facilities.

Methods:
This study selected family members visiting residents in LTC facilities as research subjects and used a structured questionnaire to perform face-to-face interviews. This study used nonlinear canonical correlation analysis (OVERALS) to categorize the decision-making factors affecting family members’ choices of LTC facilities.

Results:
The results showed that when making decisions about the placement of family members, spouses chose facilities according to their own life experiences, children considered medical treatment convenience, grandchildren preferred to collect relevant information on facilities, and relatives preferred to decide based on introductions from government departments.

Conclusion:
The research results help clarify how different family roles affect the decision-making process regarding the choice of LTC facilities. Spouses and female relatives in particular require an interventional service mechanism that provides consultation or referral information.
2. *Authors' contributions*

In order to give appropriate credit to each author of a paper, the individual contributions of authors to the manuscript should be specified in this section. An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. To qualify as an author one should 1) have made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) have been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) have given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not justify authorship.

We suggest the following kind of format (please use initials to refer to each author's contribution): AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination and helped to draft the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in an acknowledgements section. Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support.

**2. Response:** The authors’ contributions and acknowledgments has been added into this section.

**Page 13 line 7 - line 16:**

**Authors’ contributions**

YPH conceived of the study idea, analyzed the data and drafted initial manuscript. YCH conceived of the study idea, analyzed the data and critically reviewed the manuscript. CLC, CSH analyzed the data and critically reviewed the manuscript. SJL and CHH reviewed and edited the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.
Acknowledgments

The provision of investigation data of the master’s theses of Sing-Chiao Chang is highly appreciated in this study. Were it not for her assistance, authors could not publish their data in scientific publications.

3. *Competing interests

A competing interest exists when your interpretation of data or presentation of information may be influenced by your personal or financial relationship with other people or organizations. Authors must disclose any financial competing interests; they should also reveal any non-financial competing interests that may cause them embarrassment were they to become public after the publication of the manuscript.

Authors are required to complete a declaration of competing interests. All competing interests that are declared will be listed at the end of published articles. Where an author gives no competing interests, the listing will read 'The author(s) declare that they have no competing interests'.

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3. Response: The competing interests has been added into this section.

Page 13 line 3 - line 6:

Competing interests

We have no personal or financial conflict of interest and have not entered into any agreement that could interfere with our access to the data on the search, or upon our ability to analyze the data indecently, to prepare manuscripts, and to publish them.

4. Acknowledgements

Please acknowledge anyone who contributed towards the article by making substantial contributions to conception, design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, or who was involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content, but who does not meet the criteria for authorship. Please also include the source(s) of funding for each author, and for the manuscript preparation. Authors must describe the role of the funding body, if any, in design, in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript; and in the decision to submit the manuscript for publication. Please also acknowledge anyone who contributed materials essential for the study. If a language editor has made significant revision of the manuscript, we recommend that you acknowledge the editor by name, where possible.

The role of a scientific (medical) writer must be included in the acknowledgements section, including their source(s) of funding. We suggest wording such as 'We thank Jane Doe who provided medical writing services on behalf of XYZ Pharmaceuticals Ltd.' Authors should obtain permission to acknowledge from all those mentioned in the Acknowledgements section.

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The provision of investigation data of the master’s theses of Sing-Chiao Chang is highly appreciated in this study. Were it not for her assistance, authors could not publish their data in scientific publications.