Author's response to reviews

Title: Health-service performance of TB treatment for indigenous and non-indigenous populations in Brazil: A cross-sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor:
We appreciate your consideration of our work. We are submitting the revised version of the manuscript, “Health-service performance of TB treatment for indigenous and non-indigenous populations in Brazil: A cross-sectional study” (MS: 2018415531852025). We have addressed the reviewers’ comments in the responses below.

Reviewers' Critiques:

Reviewer: 1

Major compulsory revisions
None.

Minor compulsory revisions

1. Data collection tool, (Lines 205-209). The internal consistency, checked by Cronbach's alpha, showed a little difference between those who self-responded and those who did not (0.80 vs. 0.63 respectively). I am not expert in the use of Cronbach’s alpha however this would seem like a significant difference conceptually. My initial query was about whether the results were significantly different when removing the responses of those who did not self-respond.

Author's reply: There was no difference when removing the responses of those who did not self-respond. The internal consistency coefficient (Cronbach’s alpha) is 0.81 including all patients and 0.81 removing the patients who had their questionnaire answered by his legal representative (Lines 210-211).

2. Although the discussion in paragraph 2 (line 245-251) has been expanded, in my mind the significance of the finding as it relates to the research question could still be improved for instance by integrating how the significance of more people per room in Indigenous groups related to the measured performance of the TB services.

Author's reply: The number of person per rooms can be a risk for transmission in the indigenous populations. This issue was introduced is the discussion (Lines 254-257).
1. **Reviewer: 2**

Major compulsory revisions

1. The manuscript have been extensively modified and improved according to suggestions by the two reviewers. Still some important information is lacking regarding the performance of a TB control program (according to the manuscript title) such as what is the outcome of the patients: what is the default rate? The mortality? how many patients complete the treatment? the rate of relapses? The rate of cured patients?. I think authors should provide this information to associate the performance of health care to its impact in the target population.

*Author’s reply:* Revised as suggested (Lines 203-206). We have included this information in the Discussion section (248-252).

2. A second issue that I have not addressed before and become evident in the supplementary material is related to the tables, they are confuse and difficult to understand, some of the measure units should be in the heading of columns and not in the lines.

*Author’s reply:* Revised as suggested.

Sincerely,

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