Author's response to reviews

Title: How do large-scale systems change? A systematic review

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Author's response to reviews: see over
24 July 2013

Dr Christopher Morrey
Executive Editor
BMC Health Services Research
c/o BioMed Central
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Dear Dr Morrey,

On behalf of my co-authors I attach a revised manuscript entitled ‘How do large-scale systems change? A systematic review.’ We have revised our manuscript to address the comments in your email (Ref MS: 1181024749103682, dated 24 July 2013) and would like to submit this systematic review for consideration in *BMC Health Services Research*.

Thank you for your advice. We have addressed your points as follows:

1. *After reading through your manuscript, we feel that the quality of written English needs to be improved before the manuscript can be considered further. We advise you to seek the assistance of a fluent English speaking colleague, or to have a professional editing service correct your language. Please ensure that particular attention is paid to the abstract.*

   We feel this may have been a misunderstanding: the authors are all – apart from one – native English speakers who have collectively contributed to hundreds of papers in the literature. The language in the abstract was concatenated to enable reporting in PRISMA format, within the *BMC Health Services Research* word limit for abstracts. We have re-written the abstract in a more narrative and accessible style.

2. *Kindly format your abstract according to our guidelines: ([http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres](http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres)) and to provide more context for your study in the background section of the abstract.*

   The abstract has been re-formatted in accordance with *BMC Health Services Research* guidelines, and context added to the background section.

3. *Please also ensure that your revised manuscript conforms to the journal style ([http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/biology_journals](http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/biology_journals)). It is important that your files are correctly formatted.*
We have reviewed our manuscript for compliance with *BMC Health Services Research* style guidelines, but are unsure of the aspect that you refer to here. The only anomaly we could find was that large tables, such as Table 3, can be submitted as separate files. It is not clear from the guidelines whether this is a requirement or just an option, therefore we have retained the table at the end of our manuscript, but have also included it in a separate file in case this is preferred. The Endnote reference numbers, and the PRISMA checklist reference page numbers, are applicable for the document when formatted with Tables and Figures in the appropriate places in the text.

Yours sincerely,

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