Author's response to reviews

Title: Adapting developing country epidemiological assessment techniques to improve the quality of health needs assessments in developed countries

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you for considering this revised paper for publication in BioMed Central. We have made the following additional minor revisions, based on the second round of reviewers’ comments:

- We have clarified the term *area* which caused confusion as it was used both in relation to the areas surveyed and sub-divisions within these areas based on deprivation scores
- We have clarified the nature and calculation of the deprivation scores
- We have added comment relating to the expectations of communities compared to use of services
- We have strengthened the concluding summary as suggested by reviewer (DP)
- We have dropped the reference to the time of day data was collected
- We have provided additional data regarding the methodology as suggested by DP in relation to the potential level of error involved in point estimates and the reason for stratifying the sample into two groups (see Table 1)

We hope that these revisions are satisfactory and we have also made the formatting changes as suggested in your email.

Many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

Dr Susan Smith (on behalf of co-authors)