Author's response to reviews

Title: Falls and consequent injuries in hospitalized patients: Effects of an interdisciplinary fall prevention program.

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editors

Thank you very much for your message. We have done our best to include the reviewer's comments. As proposed by all of the reviewers we would like to submit the manuscript for publication in BMC Health Services Research. Please find the revised version of the manuscript (online resubmission) and see below a detailed account of changes made. In addition, the manuscript was re-edited by a native English speaking scientist following reviewer 2 who express the need of some language corrections before publication.

Sincerely yours

Koen Milisen &
Rene Schwendimann

Reviewer 1

Major Compulsory Revision (None indicated)
Minor essential Revisions (None indicated)
Discretionary Revisions (None indicated)

Reviewer 2

Major Compulsory Revision (None indicated)

Minor essential revision
1. Abstract/Results: The sentence beginning "From 3,842 falls..." was changed in the order of the sentences as requested.

2. Abstract/Conclusions: The last sentence has been deleted since reviewer 3 requested a major compulsory revision on that paragraph.

3. Table 1: The word "Hospital" was deleted since it was misplaced there.

4. Table 2: The "senseless" title was replaced with the correct title.

5. Table 3: As a first row in the table was inserted with the number of falls each year instead in the heading of each column. The percent sign in brackets was also inserted.
6. Table: The title was corrected ("...from 1999 to 2003") as requested.

Discretionary Revisions (None indicated)

Reviewer 3

Major Compulsory Revision
1. Abstract, conclusion: Only the first sentence was left since it's a conclusion of the study (data). The rest of the text was replaced by the sentence "Future studies need to incorporate strategies to maximize and evaluate ongoing adherence to interventions in hospital falls prevention programs"

2. Page 6, paragraph 2, line 1: A sentence was added to highlight the nature of our intervention program in contrast to the two RCT's (Haines et al. 2004; Healy et al. 2004).

3. Page 7, conclusion: The sentence was changed and shortened as requested and is now congruent with the conclusion part in the abstract. In addition, the last two sentences were deleted since they did not refer to data and discussion. The three remaining sentences were included in the discussion section where they belong.

Minor essential Revisions
1. Page 2, second last line - typo - was changed to "successfully"

2. Page 3, methods section, paragraph 1, line 1 - typo - was changed to "observational"

3. Page 4, results section, paragraph 1, line 7 was changed to "The most common..."

4. Results: no data are available to provide information about the proportion of patients receiving specific types of falls prevention interventions since this was not controlled for.

5. Page 7, acknowledgements - line 4 - typo - was changed to "advice"

6. Page 12, table 1, general safety section, middle column, line 2 - typo - commas were deleted and replaced by "."

7. Page 13, table 2: references to numbers in the thousands, the typos have been corrected

Discretionary Revisions (None indicated)