Author's response to reviews

Title: A scoping review of training and deployment policies for human resources for health for maternal, newborn, and child health in rural Africa

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
November 18, 2014

Dear HRH Editorial Team,

Thank you for your response to the submission of revisions for the manuscript, “A scoping review of training and deployment policies for human resources for health for maternal, newborn, and child health in rural Africa” (MS 8651816251369816).

We have performed the requested edits, as indicated in the additional material submitted by reviewers, as well as updated the author information for Chilweza Muzongwe to include her most current e-mail address. What follows is a detailed description of how we have addressed the suggested revisions by referee 2, Yotamu Chirwa.

Page 4 Line 133 ...f relevant policies in a sub-set of countries Africa. Between countries and Africa (Minor essential review)
   • The sentence has been edited for clarity (pg. 4, line 133).

Page 5 162 ...When HRH density increases, so to do important MNCH interventions – the word (to) should be removed or replaced I believe (Minor essential review)
   • The word “to” has been removed as suggested (pg. 5, line 162).

Page 6 175 face the largest disparities between population health need and the necessary HRH. I think it should be ...population health needs (Minor essential review)
   • The suggested edit has been made (pg. 6, line 175).

Page 9 line 234 The content of potentially relevant articles was mapped using a data extraction tool, The coma is not necessary, (Minor essential review)
   • The suggested edit has been made (pg. 8, line 233).

Page 14 line 368 with IMCI were not raised to an acceptable levels through this initiative. Remove the s on level. (Minor essential review)
   • The suggested edit has been made (pg. 14, line 368).

Page 15 Line 376 supportive work environments, adequate supplies of medical technology, and... remove the comma after technology(Minor essential review)
   • The suggested edit has been made (pg. 15, line 376).

Page 16 Line 408 of rural areas” program in Mali. We need a full stop after Mali (Minor essential review)
   • The suggested edit has been made (pg. 16, line 408).

Page 18 Line 450 Zambia’s MoH envisioned a similar approach to addressing HRH
shortages in describing improved training, deployment, and retention through its 10-year Strategic Plan for HRH. This is not clear to me. (Minor essential review)
  • The sentence has been edited for clarity (pg. 18, lines 450 – 451).

Line 515 which reads The other applied policy theory to identify overall provider-related barriers to its implementation. is incomplete (Minor essential review)
  • The sentence has been edited and expanded for clarity (pg. 21, lines 515 – 517).

It is our hope that the referee will find that these revisions have addressed their comments to a satisfactory degree. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gail Tomblin Murphy
On behalf of all the authors