Author's response to reviews

Title: Networking among young global health researchers through a North-South intensive training approach: a mixed methods case study

Authors:

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

Please accept our revised manuscript (No. 178409746101769) with track changes that reflect the edits described below. Our sincere thanks for the thought-provoking and insightful comments provided by Dr. Silva and Dr. Nair. We are grateful for the full complement of feedback provided. Below you will find a list of the changes made, in response to the reviewers’ reports, focusing on the essential revisions suggested.

Reviewer #1, Dr. Silva:

• The flagged typos were corrected (comments #1-4)
• The last sentence in the section “Persistence of connections” was flagged (#5), so has been removed.
• Inconsistencies in the reported number of participants were fixed (#6). The values in table 1 are correct, and the text has been edited to be consistent with table 1.
• The numbers and roles of the research team members have been clarified (#7).
• Comment #8 (under discretionary revisions). Agree, and we have consolidated sections iii and iv of Results.
• Comment #9 (under discretionary revisions): We agree that there was some evidence for disparities between Canadian and LMIC participants, as per the comment by a Canadian-based researcher at the end of the networking outcomes sub-section. However, we felt that there was insufficient data to merit a full comparative analysis of participants from Canada versus LMICs. We do agree that this is an intriguing topic that warrants further investigation and have now indicated so in the discussion
• The conclusion has been edited to include specific reference to the CCGHR Summer Institute (#10)

Reviewer #2, Dr. Nair:

• Title has been edited (#1 and comment to question #2)
• Research questions clarified on pp 6-7 (#2 and comment to question #1)
• More detailed explanation of methods and use of data has been added to page 7 (#3-4)
• The layout of table 2 has been changed to be clearer (#5). We have endeavoured to be clearer on the ‘so what’ of our research and clarify the main messages and implications for the practice of health research capacity strengthening in an expanded conclusions section (#6 and comment to question #5)

We trust this responds adequately to the concerns of our referees and you as editor. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Lenters

Corresponding author on behalf of Paula Godoy-Ruiz and Donald C Cole.