Author's response to reviews

Title: A critical review of the research literature on Six Sigma, Lean & StuderGroup's Hardwiring Excellence in the United States: the need to demonstrate and communicate the effectiveness of transformation strategies in healthcare

Authors:

Joshua R Vest (jvest@srph.tamhsc.edu)
Larry D Gamm (gamm@srph.tamhsc.edu)

Version: 3 Date: 22 May 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
Drs. Eccles and Mittman,

We are thrilled Implementation Science has decided to publish our article. We wish to express our thanks to the reviewers for their very thoughtful comments. Through their review, we really believe the paper was improved. Below we outline the two requested changes.

Thank you for all your assistance and consideration.

Joshua R Vest

Responses to Reviewer

Please amend both title and abstract as follows (amendments in capitals)(or similar): Title - 'A critical review of the research literature on Six Sigma, Lean & StuderGroup’s Hardwiring Excellence IN THE US:......' Abstract - Background: U.S. healthcare organizations are confronted with numerous and varied transformational strategies promising improvements along all dimensions of quality and performance. This article examines the peer-reviewed literature FROM THE US for evidence of effectiveness among three current popular transformational strategies: Six Sigma, Lean / Toyota Production System, and Studer’s Hardwiring Excellence

Title now reads: A critical review of the research literature on Six Sigma, Lean & StuderGroup’s Hardwiring Excellence in the United States: the need to demonstrate and communicate the effectiveness of transformation strategies in healthcare

The background section of the abstract now reads: U.S. healthcare organizations are confronted with numerous and varied transformational strategies promising improvements along all dimensions of quality and performance. This article examines the peer-reviewed literature from the U.S. for evidence of effectiveness among three current popular transformational strategies: Six Sigma, Lean / Toyota Production System, and Studer’s Hardwiring Excellence.