Author's response to reviews

Title: Interventions Encouraging The Use of Systematic Reviews by Health Policymakers and Managers: A Systematic Review

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

Thank you for considering our manuscript. We have addressed the concern highlighted by the Editors and have made appropriate revisions.

We are pleased to re-submit our manuscript entitled:

**MS# 1432538755457839 Interventions Encouraging The Use of Systematic Reviews by Health Policymakers and Managers: A Systematic Review.**

Please see the table below listing the Editor’s Comment and our response describing how it has been addressed within the manuscript:

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<th>Editor’s comments</th>
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<td>Change the phrase 'Cochrane Technology Assessments' (referred to in the Methods section of the Abstract on p.2 and on p.5 in the Data Sources and Searches) to 'Health Technology Assessment Database. [This database is not produced by Cochrane - they just provide access to it]</td>
<td>Done – The phrase was changed to ‘Health Technology Assessment Database’.</td>
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We systematically reviewed the evidence on the impact of interventions for seeking, appraising, and applying evidence from systematic reviews in decision-making by health policymakers and managers. 11,297 titles and abstracts were reviewed leading to retrieval of 37 full-text articles for assessment, and four of these studies met all inclusion criteria. Three observational studies describe limited use of systematic reviews in program planning and decision making that were proactively sent to public health policymakers and managers. One study reported positive outcomes in use of systematic reviews when access to reviews was provided along with tailored messages. To our knowledge, no systematic reviews of studies exist that examine interventions that encourage health policymakers or managers use systematic reviews in making decisions.

This manuscript is one of two papers that are part of a larger scoping review used as a strategy to understand the extent to which evidence from systematic reviews is sought, appraised, understood, and used to inform decision-making in health care. The first manuscript has been accepted for publication and focuses specifically on clinicians. This manuscript has not been previously published and is not under consideration in the same or substantially similar form in any other peer-reviewed media.

All authors listed have contributed sufficiently to the project to be included as authors, and all those who are qualified to be authors are listed in the author byline. To the best of our knowledge, no conflict of interest, financial or other, exists. We have included acknowledgements, conflicts of interest, and funding sources after the discussion.

Sincerely,

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