Author's response to reviews

Title: Implementing a stepped care approach in primary care. Results of a qualitative study.

Authors:

Gerdien Franx (gfranx@trimbos.nl)
Matthijs Oud (moud@trimbos.nl)
Jacomine De Lange (mlange@trimbos.nl)
Michel Wensing (m.wensing@iq.umcn.nl)
Richard Grol (r.grol@iq.umcn.nl)

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

Please accept the cover letter, concerning the rejected changes of my manuscript, entitled: Implementing a stepped-care approach in primary care: results of a qualitative study

The corrections are indicate in bold writing, here below. If there are still any questions, please do not hesitate to approach me for further explanation.

1. Title: H removed before Implementing

   Implementing a stepped-care approach in primary care: results of a qualitative study

2. Page 1, removal of ‘and colleagues’ corrected, at the end of the sentence instead of et al.

   Clinicians reported changes in terms of learning how to differentiate between patient groups and different levels of care, changing antidepressant prescribing routines as a consequence of having a broader treatment package to offer to their patients, and better working relationships with patients and colleagues.

3. Page 4, ‘primary care’ instead of ‘healthcare’; Historically, the Netherlands has had a strongly developed primary care system, consisting of...

4. Page 17, distinction made between complementary within primary care and in relation to specialty care, ‘Within primary care’ and ‘In relation to specialty care’ added, ‘specialist’ replaced by ‘self help’; The argument was that due to the vast number of depression interventions to be implemented, there was work to be done for all types of healthcare workers within primary care. Considering this, team members mostly preferred to be complementary instead of competitive. In relation to specialty care, complementary action included reaching an agreement with staff working at the specialist level, to refer patients to existing self help programs when necessary.

Kind regards,

Gerdien Franx