Author’s response to reviews

Title: Healthcare Providers’ Perspectives on Family Presence During Resuscitation in the Emergency Departments of the Kingdom of Bahrain

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Author’s response to reviews:

21 May 2020
Guangde Tu
BMC Emergency Medicine

Dear Dr. Guangde,

RE: Your submission to BMC Emergency Medicine - EMMD-D-20-00032R1

Thank you for your comments and suggested revisions. Below is a revised point-by-point response to feedback from the reviewers. We are indeed grateful for the opportunity to resubmit our article and to know that it is potentially acceptable for publication in BMC Emergency Medicine.

Thank you.

Point-by-Point Response:
•Response 1: The authors have addressed the majority of the questions of the reviewers, however further information is sought on two points

Authors’ response: Thank you very much for revising and accepting the changes made from our previous submission.

•Response 4: Ethical considerations, The response should relate in its entirety to the perspective of researchers, rather than clinicians as the roles are separate. For example, researchers will not be caring for patients or responsible for family decisions in their research role. Advice may be found in the National statement for ethical conduct of research, or equivalent.

Authors’ response: Page 4 Line 19-27 have been removed and replaced with the following statement:

Ethical considerations were made according to the seven elements stated in the National Statement for Ethical Conduct of Research. The study’s scope, aims, themes, questions and methods were reviewed and provided ethical approval by the hospital’s Institutional Review Board as defined by Good Clinical Practice, compliance with National Health Regulatory Authority regulations, the country’s laws, and hospital policies governing the use of human subjects in research. The process of recruitment adhered to the ethical principles of justice and respect, as described in the study’s methods section. Consent was inclusive of all required information relevant to the proposed research in language that used appropriate vocabulary, was respectful, and relevant to the research study. Participants were given an estimated time needed to complete the survey but there was no time limit for completion. In addition, participants were notified of the choice to withdraw from the study at any point without any risks, that no personal identifiers would be collected, responses would remain anonymous, and kept with the investigators for research purposes only, and that there would be no financial involvement in the study.

Data collection, use, and management of data and information in this study were in adherence to the values of respect for human beings, research merit, integrity, justice, and beneficence. Communication of research findings to participants was not performed as the survey was anonymous. Dissemination of research outputs and outcomes would be achieved only through publication in a peer-reviewed journal in order to bring to clinicians the importance of FPDR in the management of ED patients and to encourage the development of a hospital FPDR policy. After the research project, data and information are processed according to the hospital’s Research Department guidelines where they are retained for five years to allow for potential follow up of the study population. Following the five-year period, data and information from the study will then be destroyed. At no point were researchers involved in the care of patients or responsible for family decisions in their research role.

•Response 5: Reasonable attempts must be made to contact the original authors and gain written permission to use and adapt both instruments, as they hold the intellectual property. Then in text "adapted with permission" is required and the full citation is moved to the reference list.

Authors’ response:
We have emailed, phoned, and contacted the original authors from the two cited studies through the online platforms researchgate as well as academia proof to obtain written permission to use and adapt the surveys that were used in their respective study, but have unfortunately not received any responses. However, we’ve edited this sentence to remove the full citation and moved it to the reference list.

Page 5 Line 7-10: “The questionnaire was developed based on a survey from two studies assessing attitudes of healthcare providers on FPDR in a hospital setting (5, 14).”

Please find the following evidences of communication:


OFFICE EMAIL
From: research1
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 10:10 AM
To: 'inajgolden@hotmail.com'
Cc: Luma Ebrahim Bashmi ; research3
Subject: For your kind attention: Research Study Survey Permission

Dear Ms. Ina Golden,

My name is Stephanie Hsu, I am a Scientific Researcher at King Hamad University Hospital in Bahrain. We are currently working on a research study that looks into assessing the perspectives of healthcare providers (HP) on Family Presence During Resuscitation (FPDR) among those working in the emergency departments (EDs) in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Policies exist worldwide on FPDR, however, this is still lacking in the Gulf Corporation Countries (GCC) in general and in the Kingdom of Bahrain in particular. We hope that our analysis of HP perspectives on FPDR will bring to clinicians the importance of FPDR in the management of ED patients and to encourage the development of an FPDR policy in the Kingdom.

The methodology of the study would be to send an online survey to the hospital EDs involved in this study. In our literature review process, we were fortunate to come across one of your publications and found the survey used within the study to be very comprehensive.

Therefore, we are writing to obtain your kind permission to use and adapt the survey from the following published reference: Tomlinson KR, Golden IJ, Mallory JL, & Comer L. Family presence during adult resuscitation: a survey of emergency department registered nurses and staff attitudes. Adv Emerg Nurs J. 2010;32(1), 46-58.

Please find the attached survey from our study for your reference. We look forward to hearing from you soon as our deadline for submission is on May 22.

With appreciation,
Dr. Stephanie Hsu

From: research1
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 10:38 AM
SKYPE PHONECALL
May 15, 2020 Dr. Judy Neubrander’s office (309) 438-2174
May 18, 2020 Dr. Linda S. Comer’s office (863) 689-3951

GMAIL
From: Stephanie Hsu
Date: Mon, May 18, 2020 at 1:39 PM
Subject: For your kind attention: Research Study Survey Permission
To:
Cc: research3@khuh.org.bh
[same email message]

From: Stephanie Hsu
Date: Mon, May 18, 2020 at 1:34 PM
Subject: For your kind attention: Research Study Survey Permission
To:
Cc: research3@khuh.org.bh
[same email message]


OFFICE EMAIL
From: research1
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 10:19 AM
To: 'kianmehrnahid@gmail.com'
Cc: Luma Ebrahim Bashmi ; research3
Subject: For your kind attention: Research Study Survey Permission
[same email message]

GMAIL
From: Stephanie Hsu
Date: Mon, May 18, 2020 at 1:38 PM
Subject: For your kind attention: Research Study Survey Permission
To:
Cc:
[same email message]

RESEARCHGATE
[As research gate does not track sent emails, emails were manually tracked as sent to authors Kianmehr N and Mofidi M on May 18]

ACADEMIA PROOF
[Sent to author Mofidi M on May 18]