Author’s response to reviews

Title: Factors Affecting the Work Competency and Stability of Family Doctors in Shanghai: A Tracking Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thanks for carefully checking our manuscript and your suggestions, we have modified our manuscript. Also we have addressed the two reviewers’ questions:

Response to Reviewer 1:

This is an important subject in the practice of family medicine; however this work requires extensive language editing to communicate effectively what you want your audience to understand. I recommend that you get professional English language editors to go through your work before it can be presented for publishing. Your work is addressing existing gaps in the practice of family medicine in China and the world in general.

Response:

Thank you for your suggestion. We had got professional English language editors to modify our article, gave explanations for some technical terms, and made it easy to understand.
Response to Reviewer 2:

1. This study is a follow-up study on the competence and stability of family doctors in Shanghai. However, the authors did not describe the background of the family doctor contract service system in Shanghai and China in the background section, which made it difficult for readers to understand the purpose and significance of this study. In addition, the authors did not review the literature on work competency and stability of family doctors.

Response:

Thank you for your suggestion.

We have added the development of the family doctor contract service system in Shanghai and China in the background section. In addition, we adjusted some literature of work competency and stability of family doctors from the part of discussion to the background part.

2. The authors did not propose the research hypothesis for this paper. Therefore the follow-up study design was confused. Because of this, the current data analysis was not conducted in accordance with the follow-up study.

Response:

In the last paragraph of the background, we stated the problems in the development of family doctor contracting services. So we proposed the hypothesis of this research to find out the influencing factors of family doctor contracting service and to track the changes of the influencing factors.

3. The study was conducted in Changning District, Shanghai, but it was not specified why the study was conducted in this district.

Response:

Additional explanations were included in the study. Changning District is the pilot area for the reform of the family doctor system in Shanghai, whose family doctors had better representative; and the research team have a good working relationship with the community health service centers of Changning District and it is convenient to facilitate the investigation and research.
4. Please declare the formula for calculating the sample size.

Response:

The research team obtained full coverage of general practitioners who worked as family doctors in Changning District. So the survey respondents are all family doctors in Changning District.

5. In method section, the main variables (such as work competency, work stability and job satisfaction) in the questionnaire should be described in details (for example, how many items are included).

Response:

Thank you for your suggestion. We had supplemented the contents of the questionnaire in the Questionnaire survey of the Method section.

Please contact us if any questions, thank you again.

Yours sincerely,

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