Author's response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of tuberculosis infection control measures implemented at primary health care facilities in Kwazulu-Natal province of South Africa

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

The following corrections were made:

- The word “infection” has been inserted into the expression “tuberculosis infection control measures in the title and throughout the article.
- The word “respondents” has been replaced with “healthcare workers”

Abstract: The conclusion has been re-worded and expanded

Background: two paragraphs have been added:

- One elaborating on transmission of MDR-TB
- The other elaborating on the conceptual framework: linkages between variables in the study

Methods:

- The respondents are clearly stated now as healthcare workers
- A sentence has been added to explain why these two districts were chosen
- The issue of telephonic follow-up has been covered
- The sampling and the description of health facilities have been added
- Data collected through site observations have been described
- The expected compliance is now stated
- A statement has been added on the individual consent
- A statement clearly explains that the cases of nosocomial TB were reported for the last years prior to the survey

Results:

- Figure 1 has been removed
- Significant findings have been flagged in the four tables
- It now clearly stated that the cases of nosocomial tuberculosis were reported before the study was conducted

Discussion:

- The citation has been corrected, one style is used throughout
- A paragraph has been added to explain the rationale and implication of the follow-up, the non-disclosure of some information by study participants and the low response rate
- A paragraph discusses the non-compliance of suspected TB patients as critical to preventing transmission of TB

Conclusion:

- It has been modified as this: In conclusion, overall, it appears that at the facilities surveyed, less than 50% of tuberculosis infection control measures were complied with.
- Recommendations remain the same

Sincerely,

Dr. N. Malangu