Author's response to reviews

Title: Assessment of Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) following Tuberculosis regimen change in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: a qualitative study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer's report

Title: Assessment of Directly Observed Therapy following Tuberculosis regimen change in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: a qualitative study

Version: 6 Date: 6 June 2015
Reviewer: Pedro Palha

Reviewer's report: Major compulsory reviews: related to the discussion session. Include more references; Related to the descriptors: put MeSH descriptors.

Thank you for all the valuable comments, which were accepted and addressed

Minor reviews: adequate the English terms, and the typing. More detailed information are in the attached file.

The whole document was thoroughly reviewed and modified based on the detailed comment given

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests: There no competing interests.

MANUSCRIPT COMMENTS

ABSTRACT

1. The descriptor "TB treatment observation" is not indexed in the MeSH, as well as the descriptor "TB treatment regimen change". It is suggested to search for other keywords, indexed, which suited the proposal article such as "qualitative research" and "tuberculosis";

   Thank you, the descriptors are changed based on the suggestions (See L 20)

2. Do not use the abbreviation of the term "tuberculosis" – TB, as well as for "directly observed treatment" – DOT and "health care providers" – HCPs in the abstract;

   All the abbreviations were omitted (See L 21 to L 31)

3. In the section "methods", review on grammar. "In March and April" to "between March and April, 2014";

   Comment accepted and changed (See L 34)
BACKGROUND

1. On line 62, the term "tuberculosis" is written. As already indicated at the beginning of the paragraph the term "TB", should standardize and use it throughout the text;
Comment accepted and incorporated throughout (See L 62)

2. On line 64, the term "world health organization" should be set to "World Health Organization";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 64)

3. 64 and 65 lines, adjust the term "Directly Observed Treatment short course –" for "Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 65 & L 66)

4. On line 71, adjust the term "International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease" for "International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 71)

5. On line 73, also adjust the writing of "In Addition" to "In addition";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 73)

6. The last sentence of this section (line 93), put as a final paragraph, to highlight the purpose of the study.
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 93 to L 95)

METHODS

1. On line 99, replace the term "capital city" for "principal city";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 99)

2. On the same line, adjust the term "Federal democratic republic of Ethiopia" to "Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 99)

3. Adjust typing on line 102 (there are spaces where you can't have them);
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 102 to L 104)
4. On line 103, adjust "Households" to "households";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 103)

5. Enter a period at the end of the paragraph, in line 103;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 104)

6. On line 108, adjust the writing of "was the months of March and April 2014" to "was the period between March to April, 2014";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 107)

7. On line 113, adjust the typing again, removing extra spaces;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 112)

8. It is not necessary to enter the initials of the name of the principal investigator on line 118. It is suggested to remove it;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 117)

9. On line 126, adjust the term "semi structured questionnaire with open-ended questions" to "semi-structured questionnaire", since this term reveals the type of question used the same;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 125)

10. Even in the paragraph that begins on line 126, adjustments in the same formatting, inserting ":" on line 127 and, between each topic by inserting ";" so that the paragraph will look better for reading;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 126 to L 130)

11. It is suggested, in the first sentence of the paragraph that begins on line 126, put the references of the documents which served as a basis for the formulation of the script;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 126)

12. On line 141, removing the term "DF", which explains the identity of the principal investigator;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 140)

13. On line 147, adjust the term "Institutional review board (IRB)" to "Institutional Review Board";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 146)
14. On line 154, suppress the identity of the principal investigator.

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 164)

RESULTS

1. Since the topics are organized in the course of this section numerically it is suggested that, in the present between lines 159 and 163, put numbers also, for readability;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 158 to L 162)

2. On line 179, being applicable to all other fragments of reports submitted, by bringing the reports, instead of explaining the features of the interviewee "(29-year-old female patient TB)", it is suggested to replace the term "IP" (which means interviewed patient) and enter a number for each one of them. This can be applied to all the reports presented at the section "results";

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 64)

3. On line 195, bringing "DOT provider 3", it is suggested to set the term for "DP 3". Both the term "IP 1" for example and "DP 1", for example, can be placed in the section "Method" written in full, plus the following abbreviation. Proceed the same setting for all accounts as well;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly throughout the result section (See L 112)

4. It is suggested again, bringing the cutouts of the lines of the interviewees, decrease them and focus them to the desired category, in order to make the reading more fluid to the audience to which the article is intended;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly – see each quotation

5. On line 204, it is suggested to replace the term "male TB patient in his continuation phase of TB treatment for TB patient in the continuation phase of treatment";

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 204)

6. On line 207, adjust the term "very much grateful" to "so much grateful";

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 207)

7. On line 221, adjust the quotes to the end of the account of the subject interviewed;

Thank you for the comment but not clear

8. On line 226, adjust the space before the period at the beginning and set the term "some time" to "sometimes";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 225)

9. It is suggested to adjust, on line 240, the title "TB patients felt close Family support was vital" to "TB patients feel that the close family support is vital";

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 240)

10. On line 243, set the top of the phrase "But few of respondents did however say ..." to "However, few respondents said". The word "However" is used only at the beginning of sentences;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 243)

11. Delete the term "crying" at the end of the sentence on line 246;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 246)

12. On line 255, adjust the quotes to the end of the sentence;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 64)

13. On line 320/21, instead of quoting "the female nurse working", write "one health professional";

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 319 and L 320)

14. The fifth category displays only one report on the topic. It is suggested that, if there are more reports are added on. If no, the suggestion is that it be withdrawn, since the formation of categories is supported by how the interviewees talk about the phenomenon investigated.

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DISCUSSION

1. In the first paragraph (from the 332), considering that this is the topic "discussion" of the article, it is suggested that authors from inserting references about the topic presented;

2. On line 353, put the word "Health" in lowercase;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 358)

3. In the section between 360 and 371 lines, again, should be inserted references on the theme that appears. There are many articles about it published, which can strengthen the findings of the study. It is suggested to use the Pubmed database, which has a large number of references, from around the world on the subject;

Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 366 to L 377)
4. On line 369, put the word "Strategy" in lowercase;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 375)

5. 373 and 374 lines, format the text in relation to the position of commas in the same;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 378 to L 382)

6. On line 391, write in words the term "IC", since it is not possible to understand what this is about;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 397)

7. On line 393, modify the beginning of the paragraph: "In this study also indicated" for "In this way, the study also indicated";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 399)

8. On line 394, adjust "from patients perspectives" to "from patient's point of view";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 400)

9. On line 399, adjust the part of the paragraph after the quote [4]. Insert space and capital letter at the beginning of the sentence;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 405)

10. Still on line 399, the term "in this regarding", change it to "Related to this find, a study conducted ...";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 405)

**LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

1. It is suggested to rewrite the paragraph submitted. The suggestion is the following: "In this study, TB treatment data was not reviewed. In this way, it was not possible to compare the patient and worker's lines. In addition, we did not observed the way that DOT is offered in the respective facilities ".
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 410 to L 411)

**CONCLUSIONS**

1. On line 419, adjust the term "in" to "In", at the beginning of the sentence, and put a comma after the word "in addition";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 424)

2. Adjust the term "Involvement" to "involvement";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 424)

3. Removing the terms "(TTS)" and "(HCPs), which have already been cited throughout the text;
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 425to L 426)

4. Remove the "&" symbol and place the word "and";
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 426)

5. Put the prospect for further studies in another paragraph.
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 419)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. Adjust the second paragraph, placing the comma, and put a space between the terms "St Peter", as it is written here.
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 465 to L 471)

TABLES

1. Adjust again. The same is with the improper formatting, with different sources. Leave all columns centered, for easy viewing of the data.
Comment accepted and corrected accordingly (See L 423 to L 428)

IDENTIFIED ADVANCES:

1. The objective of this study in the introduction;

2. The research methods used were explicit (interviews and focus groups);

3. Search Local explained, since such information comes to influence us reports of respondents;

4. Were explained the topics present in the script for interviews;

5. Explains that the interviews were recorded;

6. Specifies the software used for the analysis of the results;

7. Explains the ethical aspects of the study;
8. Highlights the limitations of the study;

9. References adjusted.

ANSWERING BMC QUESTIONS

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? OK.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? OK.

3. Are the data sound? OK. It is only suggested to adjust the speechs fragments.

4. Do the figures appear to be genuine, i.e. without evidence of manipulation? OK.

5. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Yes.

6. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? Some suggestions were made.

7. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? Yes.

8. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? Yes.

9. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes.

10. Is the writing acceptable? Some setting are necessary, again. If the suggestions were attempted, the manuscript can be accepted.