Author’s response to reviews

Title: Characterizing the Disability Experience among Adults Living with HIV: A Structural Equation Model Using the HIV Disability Questionnaire (HDQ) within the HIV, Health and Rehabilitation Survey

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Author’s response to reviews:

June 4, 2019
Dear Dr. Devoto,

Thank you for your follow-up correspondence regarding our manuscript entitled: Characterizing the Disability Experience among Adults Living with HIV: A Structural Equation Model Using the HIV Disability Questionnaire (HDQ) within the HIV, Health and Rehabilitation Survey with BMC Infectious Diseases.

We appreciate the opportunity to clarify the distinction between our BMCID submitted manuscript on characterizing the disability experience living with HIV and our previously published manuscript examining living strategies used by adults living with HIV.

We reviewed our manuscript using originality reporting software. We trust that we’ve addressed the areas of overlapping text with our previous work. Of note, an abstract of this work was previously presented at the Canadian Association for HIV Research (CAHR) Annual Conference on HIV/AIDS. The abstract book was published online which may be a source of overlap emerging in the software https://www.cahr-acrv.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/CAHR16-Abstracts-for-web-Final.pdf. Any remaining similar text should be minimal and pertain to our description of the domain structure of the HIV Disability Questionnaire (HDQ). The development and measurement properties of this instrument have been published previously and authors felt it was important to retain consistent terminology when describing the construct and domain structure of the HDQ given this was the primary outcome measures used for this study; any text has been referenced in the manuscript accordingly.

We uploaded a clean version of the manuscript to facilitate screening with originality software as we found with our past track change versions Turnitin software was unable to distinguish the track change (deleted) text from the retained text. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Thank you, again for considering our manuscript for publication in BMC Infectious Diseases. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kelly

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