Author’s response to reviews

Title: Knowledge of tuberculosis among female sex workers in Rajshahi city, Bangladesh: a cross sectional study

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Response to Editor and Reviewers

Journal Name: BMC Infectious Diseases

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Manuscript Title: Old: “An assessment of the TB knowledge among female sex workers in Rajshahi city, Bangladesh: a cross sectional study”

New Title: "Survey on knowledge of tuberculosis among female sex workers in Rajshahi city, Bangladesh: a cross sectional study"

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for sending your and reviewers’ comments on our manuscript. We have modified and revised the manuscript accordingly, and detailed corrections point–by-point is given below:
Editor Comments:

1. In the title, the term “assessment” is not required, and “TB” should be preplaced by “tuberculosis”

Author’s response: Thank you very much for your comments on our manuscript. We have changed the title of this paper according to your comment. The new title is, “Survey on knowledge of tuberculosis among female sex workers in Rajshahi city, Bangladesh: a cross sectional study”.

2. The authors need to fit a multivariable logistic regression model in addition to the $\chi^2$-tests to assess the factors associated with the overall knowledge of FSW’s about tuberculosis.

Author’s response: We have calculated the overall knowledge considering six questions, and level of FSWs’ knowledge was estimated on the basis of their number of correct answers (correct answer, 0-2 =poor knowledge, 3-4= Fair knowledge, and 5-6 = Good knowledge). Since the level of knowledge was three categories, we have selected multinomial logistic regression to find the effect of socio-economic and demographic factors on FSWs’ overall knowledge of TB. The results were put in Table 8 and Table 9. We have written some sentences in different places in text such as in Page, 2; Line: 39-41. Page, 6; Line: 125-127; 143-145. Page, 8; Line: 183-196. Page, 9; Line: 198-207.

3. Line 51: The reference used to report the number of FSWs in Bangladesh is too old (i.e.2009) and it has to be updated by a recent citation.

Author’s response: We have tried to find the update information but did not find.

Line 122-125: Six questions were used to assess the knowledge of FSWs about TB; however, the definition for the overall poor or good knowledge of FSWs about TB is not clearly mentioned.

Author’s response: We have calculated, already mentioned in Author’s response of question 2. We have mentioned in page 6, Line: 129-131.

Reviewer reports:

Varduhi Ghazaryan (Reviewer 1): Thanks for the opportunity to review the article. The study is very well written, methods are appropriate, results and conclusions driven relevant to the findings. However, the paper does not show the significance and need, and also the added value; i.e. is the prevalence of TB higher in FSW, etc.
Author’s response: Thank you very much for your comments/suggestions on our manuscript.

Solomon Gebre-Selassie, MD (Reviewer 2): Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

Please overwrite this text when adding your comments to the authors.

It is good if you put definition of Female sex workers

Author’s response: Female sex workers, who trade sex with their clients. It is well known. We think no need to put definition.

Why you only selected only 300 FSW?

Author’s response: We have followed the procedure which was used in previous study. We have mentioned in page 5, Line: 140.

Comments

- General: Correction on language use is required

Author’s response: We have revised in English with our best.

- Title: Remove “An”

Author’s response: We have removed an from title.

- Method:
  - In method, you mentioned, “We contacted 300 FSWs by using mobile phones”. In Fig 1, you mentioned that you contacted with 250 FSWs. This should agree.

Author’s response: Sorry, this is our mistakes, actually it was 300 not 250. We have put 300 in Figure.

- Results: 92.4% were married. If married, how are they sex workers?
Author’s response: 92.4% were ever married (not currently married) among them someone divorcee or living alone.

- It would be good if HIV co-infection was studied because the study subjects are commercial sex workers

Author’s response: For the present study, we have surveyed only the knowledge on TB not HIV, sorry no scope to HIV co-infection study, but in future we have a plan to do it.

• Discussion: There is a statement saying: “According to WHO, half of the whole population of the world are infected with latent TB”. Line 206

1. First it is not referenced
2. What I know is one-third not half

Author’s response: We have revised this sentence and put recent reference [Page 9, Line: 219-220].

We would like to thank the editor and reviewers for the valuable comments. We have revised the documents to the best of our ability, but we will definitely be happy to provide further improvement if there are further clarifications required.

With best regards

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