Author’s response to reviews

Title: Developing quality indicators for assessing quality of birth centre care: a mixed- methods study

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The comment of Reviewer 1 consisted of: A comment was made in the initial review that authors stated that 'client experiences' were not included in the second round as women's experiences of care could be regarded as an outcome indicator. However, one determinant 'structural research on client experience' remains in Table 1 and Table 2 although the response from authors suggested that 'client experiences' was meant to reflect 'professional experience'. Can the authors please double check this determinant and make the change to 'structural research on professional experience' if that is what was meant?

The original comment of this reviewer was: ... a statement is made that client experiences were not included in the second round. However, one determinant is 'structural research on client experience' which seems to contradict that statement on line 177. Please comment.

Reply: we think we did not explain enough what we meant. The determinant “structural research on client experiences” is not an outcome indicator: this indicator measures whether the birth centre organise research on client experiences in a structural way: a structure indicator. Therefore
this indicator was included. Therefore we did not adapt the Tables. We apologise for the inconvenience.

We hope that our response to the reviewer's comment will provide more clarity of this determinant.