Author's response to reviews

Title: Polydrug abuse among opioid maintenance treatment patients is related to inadequate dose of maintenance treatment medicine

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Ph.D. Morten Hesse, Editor
BMC Psychiatry

Dear Editor Hesse,

Thank you for your letter (31- May - 2017) and the quality feedback that you provided regarding our manuscript: ‘Polydrug abuse among opioid maintenance treatment patients is related to inadequate dose of maintenance treatment medicine’ (BPSY-D-17-00097R1).

Please find enclosed our revised manuscript which we now re-submit to BMC Psychiatry. We have taken all of the comments into account and revised the paper accordingly. We found the comments useful, and they certainly improved the manuscript.

The answers to the editor are presented below, point-by-point.

Editor Comments: I feel that you have done a good job in terms of addressing the reviewers’ concerns. My only comment is that the English language is at times not quite optimal. Specifically, the vocabulary is sometimes a little surprising. I will give a few examples, but there are many other instances, and I will ask that you get a native speaker of English to copy-edit for you.

Examples: ‘the dose does not hold enough’-I would suggest ‘the dose is insufficient’.

‘Polydrug abuse, detected by definitive laboratory methods, was widespread and more significant among Group 1A than Group A patients, emphasizing the requirement for individual OMT medicine dose adjustment. ‘The significance of polydrug use may be more significant –but
as far as I could determine, you only assessed whether it was more common, not what significance it held in the two groups.

‘However, in Finland the most abused opioid is buprenorphine and the most abused stimulant amphetamine [4].’ These substances are probably not the most abused, but rather the most commonly abused.

These few examples are not all, and I think that with adequate assistance, this manuscript can be finished in a short time. However, it is necessary to get new eyes on it.

Our response: All the above mentioned points have now been corrected (see: Abstract, line 21, page 2; Background, line 10, page 3; Methods, line 4, page 6, respectively).

The letter did not include any new comments by the reviewers.

The manuscript has also been copy-edited by Dr. Jennifer Rowland who is a native speaker of English.

We now submit a clean version of the manuscript which have omitted both the track changes and the highlightings.

Following these revisions, we hope that our manuscript is now acceptable for publication in the BMC Psychiatry.

Yours sincerely,

Pertti Heikman
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