Author's response to reviews

Title: Parental perceptions of barriers and facilitators to preventing child unintentional injuries within the home: a qualitative study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor

The authors would like to thank the reviewers for their interesting and constructive comments. Based on the comments received revisions to the paper.

The reviewer comments and amendments made are detailed in the table below. We hope you will now accept this for publication.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviewer comment</th>
<th>Response and amendment made</th>
<th>original version</th>
<th>Line number of resubmitted version and amendment made</th>
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<tr>
<td>The recommendation that real life stories be used in prevention training is a positive step in considering how to address unintentional injury as a public health problem. How might the authors use their own data in this recommendation?</td>
<td>This is interesting thank you for this suggestion. In accordance with ethical approval, the written consent given by participants was that data can be used in reports/papers. Therefore our own data cannot be used in the recommendation. However a paragraph has been added to the discussion section to further expand the point and to provide other references that suggest that parents learning from other parents experiences is a positive step.</td>
<td>Discussion Paragraph added Line 432 There is some evidence to suggest some parents prefer finding out and learning about safety through other parents rather than by talking with professionals [38]. Our study also found that parents may find learning from other parent’s experiences of injuries useful for developing anticipatory knowledge and planning preventative strategies [14, 38].</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Question of fatalism – Given the combination of “lack of anticipation” and the sense that individuals can prevent big accidents (and not more minor injuries), the use of fatalism as a category seems to overstate parents’ perceptions of barriers. Fatalism is a concept typically associated with big accidents and a</td>
<td>Thank you for this constructive comment and for the suggested reference that I read with interest. The reference to fatalism has been removed from the paper. The reviewer raised an important issue regarding issues of blame with which the authors agree.</td>
<td>Results Barriers to undertaking injury prevention within the home Five main themes emerged relating to barriers to injury prevention: lack of anticipation of injury producing events by parents, fatalism, interrupted supervision, limitations with adapting the home, and the timing/targeting of safety information. The key themes</td>
<td>Results Barriers to undertaking injury prevention within the home Line 170 Five main themes emerged relating to barriers to injury prevention: lack of anticipation of injury producing events by parents, the idea that there is little that can be done to prevent injuries, interrupted supervision, limitations with</td>
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general carelessness with regards to risky behaviors (see Drew and Schoenberg 2011 for a more detailed discussion of fatalism). When applied as an explanation for health behaviors it becomes a way to blame individuals without looking at the larger context in which behaviors occur.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Sub heading</th>
<th>Lack of anticipation</th>
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Sub heading: Fatalism; ‘there is little that can be done to prevent injuries’

Discussion
This study found a range of barriers that make it difficult, and some facilitators that help parents to prevent injuries to children within the home. Barriers included lack of anticipation of injury producing events, fatalism, interrupted supervision, limitations to adapting the home and inappropriate timing / targeting of safety information in relation to the ages and stages of child development.
The authors’ present us with numerous quotes that support the categories of perceptions, barriers and facilitators. The discussion, however, lacks depth and context or a sense of how these categories work with each other for the parents. For example, what is the relationship between interrupted supervision and difficulties adapting the home? Might there be an economic dimension to their perceptions? Are parents who are struggling with multiple demands also be the same parents who are renters and cannot adapt the home (see McMullin and Dao 2014).

Overall the discussion reiterated the categories presented and did not produce a narrative that gave meaning or direction to the contributions or next steps suggested by the authors data.

Thank you for this constructive comment and for the reference that I found most interesting. The discussion section has been revised to provide greater depth regarding the complexities of how the barriers and facilitators found in the results section are interwoven.

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### Discussion

Lines 400 –442

**Implications for research and practice**

Sentence added: Line 447

Explanations regarding the implementation and effectiveness of interventions need to include the broader context in which parent’s injury prevention decision making and behaviours occur.