Author’s response to reviews

Title: CONTEXTUAL DETERMINANTS OF CHILDREN’S HEALTH CARE AND POLICY IN EUROPE

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

the new version of manuscript has been submitted. Below please see the response to your comments:

Ad 1 & 2. In the “Ethics approval and consent to participate” section of the Declarations we have clarified that:

"The European Commission applied its Ethics Scrutiny Process for Horizon 2020 projects to the MOCHA project, and agreed that except for identified specific tasks not covered in this paper, full ethical approval was not needed as no personal data were being collected. Country Agents were recruited for the H2020 project and paid to deliver qualitative and quantitative data on child health issues in their countries; they are aware of the intention to publish analyses based on the material they supplied. There is consent to use and publish the data. It is also made explicit in the project grant agreement. There was no formal requirement to approve MOCHA study by ethics committees from each country as the data collected by Country Agents referred to in this study was publicly available in their national languages. The European Commission Ethical Scrutiny verified this position before the grant was approved".

In the Consent for publication section we confirmed that:

"Country Agents were recruited for the H2020 project and paid to deliver qualitative and quantitative data on child health issues in their countries. There is consent to use and publish the data. It is also made explicit in the project grant agreement. There was no formal requirement to approve MOCHA study by ethics committees from each country as the data collected by Country Agents was publicly available in their national languages. The European Commission Ethical Scrutiny verified this position before the grant was approved."

Ad 3. The heading was changed to "Methods"

Ad 4. In the Funding section of Declarations we clarified that:

"This work received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 634201. Under EU rules, the research had to be conducted exactly as specified in the Proposal, which had explicit sections on the Country Agent process, and on the structured sounding of public opinion in policy formulation.

All co-authors were part of the MOCHA project. All were paid by the MOCHA funds. Their role is clearly defined in the section Authors’ Contributions.

The corresponding author who is going to cover the publication costs, KZ, designed the questionnaire, collected the data and performed analysis of the data, described the results of the performed analysis, led the drafting of the manuscript".

Ad 5. Figure legends are provided under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References.

Ad 6. Highlights were erased from the main text

Additionally clarifications on the availability of data was made:

"Under Horizon 2020 funding rules the European Commission requires all data to be accessible to the greatest degree possible, but also recognising the potential conflict between Openness and Confidentiality. To that the MOCHA team have added the importance of Comprehension, as source data cannot be interpreted without clear understanding of the method of acquisition. The
MOCHA data contains no patient information, but may contain other personal or institutional data such as source of a commentary. The MOCHA project has therefore resolved that source data will be curated on the MOCHA web site, and be accessible via the Principal or other Partners through a curator function, so that data relevant to any enquiry can be supplied, and redaction effected, but also contextualisation given."

With kind regards,

Kinga Zdunek