Author’s response to reviews

Title: "I have got diabetes!" - interviews of patients newly diagnosed with type 2 diabetes

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Author’s response to reviews:

Helsingborg, Sweden, May 2019

Dear Dr Byrne, Dear Reviewers,

Enclosed please find the resubmitted manuscript entitled “I have got diabetes!” – interviews of patients newly diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, Reference number BEND-D-18-00268. We thank the editor and reviewers for the valuable comments on our manuscript. We have addressed the questions and comments of the reviewers and amended the manuscript according to the suggestions of the reviewers. Moreover we have made an additional language check. Please find our answers below in this text.

We hope that the manuscript now meets with your approval to be published in BMC Endocrine Disorders.

On the behalf of all authors,

Yours sincerely,

Miriam Pikkemaat
Reviewer reports:

Kirsten Coppell (Reviewer 1):

The paper would still benefit from a final edit by a competent English writer as there are still a number of grammatical errors, and the choice of some words and phrases are those typically used by a native English speaker. E.g. page 18, line 9 - “The patients have to be approached individually after penetrating their personal wishes and preferences.” A better word choice for 'penetrating' would be 'expressing'.

Comment:

Thank you for comment. Apart from the previous professional language editing another very competent native English speaking writer with lots of publications in high rated journals has now done a final language edit. Among others we have changed the word “penetrating” to “expressing” on page 18, line 9.

Moreover we made small changes improving the language in the Results section of the abstract on page 2, in the whole Background section (page 3-4), in parts of the Methods section (paragraphs Participants, Interviews and first part of Analysis), in the last part of the Results section and in the whole Discussion section.

We added an acknowledgement on page 21 giving the new text:

We thank Alan Crozier for editing the manuscript and translating the quotations and Professor John Chalmers for a final edit.

A few specific comments follow.

* For the length of the interview in table 1, the number of minutes would be better recorded as whole numbers.

Comment:

We have changed the number of minutes in table one to whole numbers.

The comments below are numbered according to the response to reviewers comments:

Reviewer 1

4) The aim has been more clearly worded but it needs to include the aspect which focuses on patients’ reactions to the risk of developing complications of diabetes
Comment:
Thank you for valuable comment. We have changed the sentence describing the aim of the study in the background section of the abstract to:

“The aim of this study was to explore the thoughts, experiences and reactions of newly diagnosed patients with diabetes to this diagnosis and to the risk of developing complications.”

7) The target blood pressure should read 'less than 140/85 mmHg' not '145/85 mmHg' as per the reference.

Comment:
Thank you for comment, you are of course right. We have corrected in the manuscript on page 3.

13) It would be of value to include the whole translated interview schedule as a supplementary document.

Comment:
We now translated the interview schedule into English and provided it as a supplementary document. We referred to it on page 4 in the Methods section, paragraph Design.

23) The addition in relation to lifestyle changes refers to physical activity only. Please also include dietary advice.

Comment:
Thank you for your comment. We rephrased the text on page 16 as following and inserted the new reference 27:

Lifestyle changes

To give dietary advice with the aim of improving the diet and trying to increase the level of physical activity is an important part of the diabetes check-up in Sweden, especially in the meeting with the diabetes nurse. According to the National Guidelines [8] the check-ups include information, motivational talks and even the possibility to write a prescription for physical activity to facilitate for the patient to become more active [26]. Regarding the diet
an adapted energy intake and improved eating habits are important interventions to stabilise blood glucose and to reach weight loss if needed, using the National Board of Health and Welfare's guidance Diet in Diabetes [27] as a complement in the consultation.


Additional change:
We chose to replace the rather old previous reference 44 from 2001 to the new reference 44 on page 19:


Reviewer 2

2) As noted above, although the grammar is better, there are still grammatical errors.

Comment:

Thank you for comment. Apart from the previous professional language editing another very competent native English speaking writer with lots of publications in high rated journals has now done a final language edit.