Author’s response to reviews

Title: How do we incorporate patient views into the design of health-care services for older people: a discussion paper

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Many thanks for forwarding the last Peer Reviewer’s comments. We have subsequently amended the text and have detailed these changes below on a query-by-query basis. 1. Please include all author addresses on the title pageCompleted.2. Please make sure all declarations are present. Completed.3. AbstractThe aim has been moved to the background section and the four approaches added to the discussion. One extra line has been added “These methods facilitate partnerships between researchers, healthcare professionals and patients to produce more responsive and appropriate public services for older people”.4. Who are dental geriatrics workers in the current system? We feel that a section on this in the introduction would affect the flow of the paper, however, we have added one sentence “Equally, the provision of care is not homogeneous and is delivered by many different types of healthcare worker”.5. Considering needs of independent and non-independent elderly (institutionalized or those living at home), what has this differences been the been addressed?We think the phrase “As older peoples’ independence deteriorates, all these factors are compounded further”, already alludes to this and the paper is relevant for both independent and non-independent elderly. However, the Phrase “both dependent and independent” has been added to the sentence ”To ensure an inductive process underlies the design of healthcare services for older people (both dependent and independent) a number of methodological approaches could be undertaken and the most commonly used here are”. We also think the existing sentence “With respect to older people, it is important to emphasise that those over sixty-five years of age are not one homogenous group and so further differentiation is important [60], particularly
in respect of chronological/physiological ageing, dependence/independence and their home setting (e.g. living in a home versus living at home)” captures this in the Discussion. 6. A box of characteristics of each of the four approaches may help to see their differences. Added (“Box 2”).

7. Your "Table 1" would be better called "Box 1". Amended.