Author's response to reviews

Title: Case management in primary palliative care is associated more strongly with organisational than with patient characteristics. Results from a cross-sectional prospective study

Authors:

Annicka gm van der plas (a.vanderplas@vumc.nl)
Anneke l francke (a.francke@vumc.nl)
kris c vissers (Kris.Vissers@radboudumc.nl)
wim jj jansen (wjj.jansen@vumc.nl)
Luc deliens (Luc.deliens@vub.ac.be)
bregje Onwuteaka-philipsen (b.philipsen@vumc.nl)

Version: 2
Date: 13 January 2015

Author's response to reviews:

Excuse us for the oversight of adding line numbering and an abbreviations section. We've added both. For line numbering we chose the option 'continuous', not 'page-by-page'. Please let us know if the latter is preferred.

We've added the heading 'Conclusion' below the discussion of the strengths and limitations of the study.

We added information on obtaining informed consent in the 'Procedure' section of the Methods description, which now reads: 'Under Dutch law this study is exempt from approval from an ethics committee since it did not involve any imposing interventions or actions [12]. Data was anonymized by the case manager before being handed over to the authors. The authors / researchers did not interact with the patients, instead the authors provided information material about the study to the case managers, so they could inform the patients on the study and get consent.'