Author's response to reviews

Title: 'From activating towards caring'. Shifts in care approaches at the end of life of people with intellectual disabilities; a qualitative study of the perspectives of relatives, care-staff and physicians.

Authors:

Nienke Bekkema (nienkebekkema@hotmail.com)
Anke JE de Veer (a.deveer@nivel.nl)
Cees MPM Hertogh (cmpm.hertogh@vumc.nl)
Anneke L Francke (a.francke@nivel.nl)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Professor Bausewein,

Thank you for considering our manuscript for BMC palliative care. Please find enclosed a revision of our manuscript ‘‘From activating towards caring’’. Shifts in care approaches at the end of life of people with intellectual disabilities; a qualitative study of the perspectives of relatives, care-staff and physicians’, including the two changes in the format we made on the editor’s request. We made the following two changes:

- We added a section on competing interests and declared that the authors have no competing interests.

- We renamed ‘introduction’ into ‘background’ section.

Our manuscript reports original research that has not been published elsewhere and is not being considered for publication in another journal. The study describes the shifts in care approaches and attitudes that relatives and professionals of people with intellectual disabilities perceive in palliative care, as well as the moral values underlying these shifts. The results are based on qualitative analysis of the stories of 45 relatives and professionals about their experiences with 12 recently deceased people. The results concerning this special patient group are valuable for researchers and professionals in palliative care, as well as for those working in the care for people with intellectual disabilities.

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The opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors. The authors have full control of all the primary data. All authors have been involved with the work and have approved the manuscript and agree to its submission. The authors disclose no financial conflict of interest.

I look forward to your reply,
Nienke Bakkema
Researcher, NIVEL, Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research
Contact through: a.deveer@nivel.nl