**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** Palliative care for patients with motor neurone disease and their bereaved carers: a qualitative study

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Manuscript (PCAR-D-18-00173)

Authors

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Dear Editor

I am pleased to resubmit for publication the revised version of manuscript (PCAR-D-18-00173) “Palliative care for patients with Motor Neurone Disease and their bereaved carers: a qualitative study.” We are very grateful to you, the editorial team and the expert reviewers for taking the
time to review our manuscript and for providing valuable and constructive comments. We provide a point-by-point response to each comment below.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Clare Mc Veigh

(Email: clare.mcveigh@qub.ac.uk)

Response to Editor Comments:

1. Please see the comments from Reviewer 1, below.

Comments addressed below

2. To help preserve participant anonymity, please change the ages in Table 1 to ranges instead of specific ages.

Removed from table. Age range and mean added to pg. 5, line 120.

3. Please provide an “Additional Files” section after the References where you list the following information about each of your supplementary files:
   a. File name (e.g. Additional File 1)
   b. Title of data
   c. Brief description of the data

Please ensure that all additional files are explicitly referred to in the main text.

Additional files section added to the manuscript outlining the requested details – page 22, lines 540 -544. Additional filed referred to in the main text on page 7, line 130.

Any items which do not meet these requirements may be deleted by our production department.
4. In the main text of your manuscript, please change the “Findings” heading to “Results”, in accordance with our submission guidelines.

Heading changed on page 8, line 162.

5. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Response to Reviewer reports:

Mary O'Brien (Reviewer 1): Thank you for your response to my comments. There are a few minor issues which require attention.

1. Within the text (Page 3 line 62 & 64) NICE should be National Institute for Health & Care Excellence

Thank you for highlighting, this has been changed and can be found on page 3, lines 62 and 64.

2. Page 3 line 67 delete 'and America' – Deleted

3. Page 10 line 200 delete apostrophe in GP's – Deleted

4. Page 13 line 284 delete 'd' from advanced care plans (should be advance care plans) – Deleted

5. Page 14 line 317 - add in carer ID details – Inserted

6. Page 21 reference 9- double-check the reference as it appears to be 2 separate references - Amended