Author’s response to reviews

Title: Choices and services related to contraception in the Gaza Strip, Palestine: Perceptions of service users and providers

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Title: Choices and services related to contraception in the Gaza Strip, Palestine: Perceptions of service users and providers

Dear Ms Barling,

Thank you for these hints for correct representation of the Declarations section and whole of the manuscript. We have looked at all deficiencies and have made the necessary and required modifications. Now we have submitted the manuscript as a ‘clean version’ without any tracked changes, strikeouts or highlights.

Please also note that we have corrected the title as a small mistake had been made previously, when it said ‘provicers’ instead of ‘providers’. This was corrected on paper and will also be corrected on the Editorial Manager system.

We hope that it is to your satisfaction now and that it can be considered for publication in the BMC Women’s Health.

Thank you very much for your support.

Kind regards

Bettina Bottcher
On behalf of all authors
Ethical approval for this study was obtained from the Human Resources Department of the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), which is the body in Gaza to issue approvals for studies involving humans.

Please can you clarify under 'ethics approval and consent to participate' that 'the Human Resources Department of the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH)' is an ethics committee. If not, please state the reason.

Response:

This section was clarified further and is hopefully clear now. Please see the section in italics below, which describes the ethics approval procedure. The committee is not called ‘ethics committee’, but is responsible for such approvals.

Ethical approval for this study was obtained from the Human Resources Department of the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), which is the body in Gaza to issue approvals for studies involving humans and responsible for issuing ethical approval. For this a set procedure is followed, which involves review by a committee for confirmation or rejection of ethical approval.

2. Authors Contributions

-- Please include a statement in the Authors' contributions section to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript, and ensure that this is the case.

Response:

Thank you for making us aware of this necessity. Indeed, all authors were involved and have read and approved this manuscript and this has been made clear now.

3. Availability of Data and Materials

The Availability of data and materials section refers to the raw data used in your study and presenting tables and figures is not sufficient to state that all data is contained within the manuscript and additional files. Please only use this statement if you have indeed provided all raw data on which your study is based.

• The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK TO DATASETS]

• The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.
• All data generated or analysed during this study are included in this published article [and its supplementary information files].

• The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

• Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

• The data that support the findings of this study are available from [third party name] but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and so are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of [third party name].

• Not applicable. If your manuscript does not contain any data, please state 'Not applicable' in this section.

Response:

Thank you. This was a misunderstanding. The data are not available on a repository, due to their sensitive nature, but will be made available at reasonable request, both quantitative and qualitative data. This has been added to this section.

4. Acknowledgements

Currently, the acknowledgement section is blank. Please include any acknowledgements here. If you do not wish to make any acknowledgements please state 'not applicable'.

Response:

Thank you. This was done.

5. Abbreviations

Currently, these are contained within a table. Please remove the table and include these in the manuscript file under 'abbreviations'.

Response:

The table was not removed previously, as it is requested in the BMC general formatting guidelines. But all abbreviations used are stated in the text and the authors agree that the additional table is not necessary.
6. Tracked Changes

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. Please ensure that all figures, tables and additional/supplementary files are cited within the text.

Response:

Thank you. This has been done.

7. Cite

-- Please ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the text. Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication.

Response:

Thank you for this reminder. All tables and additional files have been cited in the paper.

8. Formatting

-- Please change Funding sources to funding.

Response:

This has been done.