Author's response to reviews

Title: PROTOCOL: Development, implementation and evaluation of a clinical research and leadership capacity building program as a knowledge translation initiative across an Australian health care service

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Dear Dr Partridge,

Please find herewith submission of our manuscript for consideration.

It is well known among health service researchers that despite considerable research investment, the benefits to patient care and service delivery are limited if the research evidence generated is poorly disseminated and implemented into the health care setting. It has been recognized that health professionals need to be integrated more effectively in clinical research initiatives to ensure that research addresses key clinical needs and provides practical, implementable solutions at the coal face of care.

In light of limited evidence on how best to achieve this, this protocol outlines an innovative program of knowledge translation and healthcare improvement activity that aims to build capacity and facilitate multi-disciplinary health professional engagement in clinical research by addressing cultural and systems barriers in the clinical setting of Australia’s largest health service, potentially revolutionising the way health care is informed and delivered.

We anticipate that this research will capture a broad international audience and will be cited in future research involving health professionals in knowledge translation, implementation, research capacity building and healthcare improvement research, which are growing areas of investigation internationally.

The study has been approved by the Monash Health Research and Ethics Committee and has received competitive internal funding. There are no competing interests to declare.

We hope that you will consider this protocol favorably for publication in Medical Education.

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