Author’s response to reviews

Title: Changes in patient-centered attitude and confidence in communicating with patients: A longitudinal study of resident physicians

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Dear Editor:

We would like to thank both reviewers for their comments. The following is a summary of our revisions in response to each of the reviewers’ concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Hirono Ishikawa

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Technical Comments:

1) Under the heading "Funding", please state the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

We added the following sentence.

This study was supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 16H05211. The funding body did not influence the design of the study, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, and manuscript preparation in any way.
Reviewer reports:

mandana shirazi, PhD (Reviewer 1): However, still I would like to know more about demographic characteristics of non-participant group.

We appreciate your comments. Unfortunately, we are not able to add demographic information of the non-participant group because they did not participate in the survey.

Nicky Hudson (Reviewer 2): Would prefer the % of respondents to be given after each year, the number is followed by % in brackets for each year.

We added the % of respondents each year.

Among 221 resident physicians who attended the session, 204 residents (67 [93.1%] in 2013, 66 [91.7%] in 2014, and 71 [92.2%] in 2015) returned a completed consent form and questionnaire (response rate: 92.3%). At the end of the academic year, a follow-up questionnaire was sent to the T1 participants by in-house mail and online (named T2). Ninety-five out of 204 (27 [40.3%] in 2013, 41 [62.1%] in 2014, and 27 [38.0%] in 2015) returned the questionnaire (response rate: 46.6%).