**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** The impact of an interprofessional training ward on the development of interprofessional competencies: Study protocol of a longitudinal mixed-methods study

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**Author’s response to reviews:**

Reviewer 1

Thank you for letting me review this protocol about a very relevant study. Especially I find it interesting that the study includes students from both academic and vocational training. Overall, I see the protocol as clearly structured and well written. I just have a few comments.

- Thank you for the positive feedback and your very helpful comments.

Key words: I wonder why you have used the word 'interdisciplinary' here? It is not used elsewhere in the text and it has another meaning than 'interprofessional'.

- Thank you for paying attention to this important issue. The two keywords containing the term ‘interdisciplinary’ have been deleted.

P9 L5: I think it will be interesting for the readers if you insert a few words as supplement to 'prepared briefly'. What encompassed the preparation and who gave it.
The respective information has been added: “...by members of the project team. This preparation encompasses information on interprofessional collaboration and on the facilitators’ tasks of enabling self-responsible working of the undergraduates and supporting them.” (p 7, l 21ff.)

P9 L41: How were the undergraduates informed?

- The respective information has been added: “Besides being informed verbally, staff, facilitators and undergraduates receive an information sheet, which clarifies how their data is used and gives them the contact information on the principle investigator. Since May 2018, in an updated version according to the General Data Protection Regulation, the contact information of the data protection officers of the faculty and of the state is provided. They are informed that their participation in the study is voluntary and that they can withdraw their consent to participate any time. After being informed they can give their consent to participate by signing a consent form.” (p 8, l 17 ff.)

P9 L50: I suggest that you add that the questionnaire was translated into German. And concerning the two other scales - it would be interesting to know if and how they were translated into German.

- Thank you for pointing this out. Information on the translation has been added. (p 8, l 16 ff.) The translation process is not described in this manuscript as the validation of the translated questionnaires together with psychometric properties are subject to a validation study and not part of this evaluation.

P9 L44 - P10 L18: When reading this paragraph it is important to watch ones step - which for me meant that I had to read it two times to grasp the intended meaning.

- The paragraph has been divided into two parts in order to facilitate reading.

P10 L43: What was the content of the self-developed assessment sheet?

- The respective information has been added: “containing items addressing the interprofessional collaboration and communication”

P11 L2-3: I suggest that you elaborate a little on the qualitative analysis of video recordings and interviews - why both deductive and inductive approach. And please insert reference(s).

- More detailed information on qualitative analysis has been given; “Qualitative data will be analysed within qualitative content analysis deductively and inductively using the computer-assisted data analysis program MAXQDA in order to generate categories for hypothesizing [31].
Inductive analysis enables an in depth insight into participants’ experiences and behaviours. Quantitative data can be complemented. The deductive approach is chosen to cluster and compare data, especially in terms of a triangulation with the quantitative data in order to gain deeper insight from multiple perspectives in various chosen aspects.” (p 9, 19 f.)

P11 L23-24: Is it possible to find a reference for this statement?
- References have been added. (p 10, l 11)

P11 L25-28: Is it possible to find a reference for this statement?
- References have been added. (p 10, l 3)

P11 L34-43: Is it possible to find a reference for this statement?
- References have been added. (p 10, 19f.)

P12 L1-7: Are these numbers still correct?
- Numbers have been updated within the ‘trial status’ section. (p 10, 115 ff.)

Reviewer 2

This manuscript introduces a current and much needed exploration of the impact of interprofessional learning on collaborative practice to inform the evidence base for interprofessional collaborative practice. It introduces an innovative study of the interprofessional competencies to be gained from the experience of participating in an Interprofessional Training Ward. The study effectively reviews the available literature and demonstrates a robust mixed methods approach. Research questions are focused and an effective sample of participants is clearly demonstrated enhancing the rigour of the research methodology. The analysis and findings of the study will enrich the much needed evidence base for interprofessional collaborative practice.

- Thank you for the positive feedback and your very helpful comments.

Page 8 Line 21: does there need to be clarification of what T0, T1 and T2 mean here rather than waiting until page 10?
- Clarification of the meaning of T0, T1, T2 has been added (p 6, 130 ff.).
Page 8 line 40: clarify how informed consent is gained too participate in the study. Is there a letter that could be included as supplementary material?

- Detailed information on how consent to participate is gained is given within the data collection section, hence no supplementary material is included. (p 8, 17 ff.)

See response to reviewer 1

Page 9 Line 21: 'are' instead of 'is'

- No change needed, since 'is' refers to ‘HIPSTA’ (“…the ward HIPSTA is integrated in…”) (p 7, 131 f.)


- Information has been added. Also see response to reviewer 1

Page 10: consistency in the use of numerals or word, perhaps not both

- All words have been changed into numerals.

Page 10-11: in the data analysis how will audio and video be analysed? Are you using a specific digital programme (NVivo) or method?

- More detailed information on qualitative analysis has been given. See response to reviewer 1