Author’s response to reviews

Title: Development of a consensus operational definition of child assent for research

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Author’s response to reviews:

We thank the Editor and reviewers for their careful consideration of this manuscript. We have responded to the remaining comments as described below:

1. We note that your study included information collected from a Delphi panel. Please can you clarify if consent to participate in this study was collected from the members of this panel, and if so, how this was collected from the panel members. Please include this information in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section.

Consent was obtained via e-mail with instructions for the study and statements regarding the voluntary nature of the study and de-identification of panel members and their data. Permission to have the panel members’ names revealed and published in the acknowledgment section required written approval. We have added this to the methods, Pages 5-6, Lns. 25,26 and 1,2.

2. 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.

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