Author’s response to reviews

Title: Frequency of ubiquitous connectivity and associated factors among Mexican adolescents.

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Author’s response to reviews:


Alison Cuff
Editor
BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making

Enclosed you will find the revised manuscript Ref. No.: MIDM-D-18-00022 entitled “Frequency of ubiquitous connectivity and associated factors among Mexican adolescents”.

The new version has been modified according to the requests of the reviewers. The following pages include the point-by-point response report, incorporating where and how the modifications were made (indicated by text by highlighting).

We hope the revised manuscript is suitable to be published by BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making.

Sincerely,

Arturo Aguilar-Ye
Corresponding Author, on behalf of all authors.
Reviewer reports:

Sisira Edirippulige (Reviewer 2):

I have reviewed the text up to Results. Some comments are attached below. I recommend the expression of ideas must be clear and simple.

Background

Page 4

Line: 7-8 - where does this definition come from? (if this is related to ref 1, citation must be noted after first sentence
Response. The paragraph was restructured to properly express the idea, and reference was placed in the right sentence.

Line 7-8 … 'on the Internet permanently'… is this true?
Response. The sentence was deleted.

Line 20 - digital revolution and interconnectivity - these concepts, particularly 'digital revolution' is a journalistic one… can we take them as facts?
'these strategies….' Are known as 'mHealth'… I do not believe this is correct… I think it is best to find a better/ formal definition for mHealth
Response. The concept ‘digital revolution’ was replaced by ‘mobile technologies’.
The word 'mHealth', was replaced by mobile health, which is the technical expression for the abbreviation, as indicated in the paragraph in parentheses.

Line 33 - 'intentionally access it' (It is not clear which option is used unintentionally and how) you need to give some careful thinking on these statements
Line 40 - 'unidirectional e-health' - is this true? Web-based chatting/discussion communication for ex. they are not unidirectional
Response. The two sentences were deleted.

Line 48-54 advantages of ubiquitous connectivity …. Improved satisfaction etc… these statements need to be reformulated… they read quite simplistic … need to give some serious thinking and reformulate the sentences (and also please think about the order of benefits… )
Response. The paragraph was restructured to properly express the idea.

By implementing health projects in people connected in a ubiquitous way, better health results are obtained, waiting times, costs are reduced and with it a greater satisfaction in the user. With this, it is possible to manage health services differently,….
consume and generate content in households (so, these stats are about household generated content only? What do you mean by generating content? You have to think about your main question… and interpret these facts to align with that

Response. The sentenced was deleted.

Line 59… Via of interaction (what does this mean?) I think it is important to express ideas clearly
Response. The paragraph was restructured to improve the expression of the idea.

Page 6

Line 4-7 … there have been extensive research carried out in developed countries using mHealth and involving adolescents … need to phrase these sentences to reflect reality
Line 16-17… characteristics and ubiquitous….. very complicated phrases.. (rephrase)
Line 23-24 … objective of this study is not clear… is this study to learn about the level of mobile devices use among adolescents OR in addition to learn about how these devices can be used for health promotion? (if the latter is not an objective, then omit it)
Response. The rationale and objective of the study and were adjusted according to the reviewer's suggestion.

Methods
Line 40… total of 30 items (it is useful to outline the key aspects that the questions are focusing on ex. demographics (3 questions), frequency of Internet use (2 questions) etc…
Response. The number of questions in each category of the questionnaire was specified.

Data analysis
Not knowing the focus of key aspects, reader will have difficulty to understand the analysis process and the purpose.
Response. In analysis section, the purpose of the statistical tests used was specified, supported according to the objectives of the study.

Reviewer “2” (Reviewer 3):
GENERAL COMMENTS: The authors have dealt with reviewer comments well. The main concerns from reviewers was about the lack of detail around methods, sampling, survey tool, etc. They have dealt with some of this, but there is still a lack of detail around the validity and reliability of the tool.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:
I think two issues still remain for the authors to deal with. Firstly, whilst the authors have added some
detail on the methods and sampling, they still have not added enough detail on the validity and
reliability of the questionnaire. They have cited places where the questions emanate, but they need to
say whether or not validity and reliability have been tested.

Response. A paragraph was added describing the source and the validity of the questions used in the
study (Page 7, Paragraph 3).

Secondly, whilst they have received ethics approval for the study, page 8 (lines 27-29) states that
"'principal were invited to strengthen the recruitment strategy through weekly telephone reminders'" -
this may account for the very high response rate (close to 100%), but I think it deserves some mention
about the potential for perceived coercion, power and thus the ethics of using this to "'strengthen
recruitment'" - it may be normal practice in school-based research in Mexico, but certainly would not
be allowed by ethics committees in some other countries - it certainly requires comment by the authors
within the paper."

Response. A paragraph was added to detail the description of the voluntary recruitment strategy (Page
8, Paragraph 2).