Author's response to reviews

Title: The Professional Nurse Self-Assessment Scale: psychometric testing in Norwegian long term and home care contexts

Authors:

elisabeth finnbakk (elisabeth.finnbakk@ldh.no)
sigrid wangensteen (sigrid.wangensteen@hig.no)
kirsti skovdahl (kirsti.skovdahl@hbv.no)
lisbeth fagerstrom (lisbeth.fagerstrom@hbv.no)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your acceptance of our manuscript for publication in your journal. As per your latest comments, minor changes have been made to the manuscript and you will find a revised, fourth version of the “The Professional Nurse Self-Assessment Scale: psychometric testing in Norwegian long term and home care contexts” manuscript uploaded. Our replies to your latest comments are found below (pp. 2).

We, Sigrid Wangensteen (SW), Kirsti Skovdahl (KS), Lisbeth Fagerström (LF), and myself (Elisabeth Finnbakk; EF), have all been involved in the completion of the manuscript. The authorship contributions are as follows: study design EF, SW, LF; instrument development EF, SW, KS, LF; data collection EF; analysis EF, SW, LF; and manuscript preparation EF, SW, KS, LF. The manuscript has not been previously published. All authors meet the criteria for authorship and have approved the final manuscript. Lastly, we the authors declare no competing interests.

In regard to publication fees, the corresponding author, Elisabeth Finnbakk, can organize payment by credit card as necessary. We are extremely pleased to have been accepted for publication, and thank you once again for all of your help and interest during the approval process.

Yours sincerely,

Elisabeth Finnbakk, Corresponding author
Lovisenberg Diaconal University College
Lovisenbergt. 15 b
0456 Oslo
Norway

E-mail: elisabeth.finnbakk@ldh.no
Mobile phone: +47 975 444 09
Please note that the following changes to the manuscript have been made as per your instructions:

1. Page 2, line 11.
   “N=704, response rate 52.7%” has been deleted and replaced with “A purposive sample of 357 registered nurses who worked in long term and home care…”

2. Page 9, line 17.
   The following text has been inserted after the first sentence: “Municipalities represented both rural and small to mid-sized urban areas (30-60,000 inhabitants). The number of eligible practicing RNs was 704. While all of them were invited to participate in the study, only 371 questionnaires were returned (response rate 52.7%). Fourteen questionnaires were rejected as incomplete with 26 items not answered (> 35%), resulting in 357 complete surveys. No APNs were among the eligible population. Even though master’s level programs in APN are offered in Norway, such a level of studies is relatively new and the APN role is still emerging. Demographic background data were collected.”

   The text has been changed to: “...we found that the 357 respondents who returned complete questionnaires constituted...”.

   The text has been changed to: “Response rate for the first region was 51.% (n=166) and the second region 54.% (n=205).”

5. Page 13, line 3.
   The following text has been deleted: “Of the total returned questionnaires (n=371) fourteen were rejected due to ≥ 26 items not answered (> 35%). Consequently, 357 respondents were included in the further analysis.”