Author’s response to reviews

Title: Emergency Nurses’ Knowledge, Attitude and Perceived Barriers Regarding Pain Management in Resource Limited Settings: Cross Sectional Study

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Authors Response to Reviewers

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Emergency Nurses’ Knowledge, Attitude and Perceived Barriers Regarding Pain Management in Resource-Limited Settings: A Cross-Sectional Study

Desale Twelde Kahsay; Marianne Pitkäjärvi, PhD

BMC Nursing

Date: 21 October 2019

To: BMC Nursing Editorial Office

From: Desale Tewelde Kahsay

Subject: Submission of a Revised Manuscript

Dear Janelle Coore (Editor),

First, we would like to express the most profound appreciation to all the reviewers and the editor for providing us with your precious time, constructive comments, and thoughtful suggestions to make our manuscript more valuable.
We have included the reviewer’s and the editor's comments, suggestions and concerns immediately after this letter and responded to them individually, indicating exactly how we addressed each concern and describing the changes we have made in the text.

One important information that we want to tell is the address change of the second Author. The address of Dr Marianne Pitkäjärvi is changed from Bulevardi 31, 00180, Helsinki, to Myllypurontie 1, PO BOX 4000, 00079 Metropolia, Helsinki, Finland.

We hope that the changes we have made will resolve all of your concerns in the manuscript. However, we are more than happy to make any further changes that make the article suitable for publication.

Sincerely,

Desale Tewelde kahsay

Comment from Virginia Plummer, PhD (Reviewer 3)

Comment: My final suggestions are to delete the last sentence of the abstract, and in the second last sentence begin with 'This indicates' the need for ... to educate nurses to a higher level of preparation on pain assessment and management.

Response: the last sentence of the abstract is deleted and the second last sentence is modified in the text, inline to the reviewer’s suggestion (abstract section, page 3, line 5-10)

Change in the text: This indicates the need for nursing schools and the ministry of health to work together to educate nurses to a higher level of preparation on pain assessment and management.
Comments/Suggestion from the editor

Comment: Please clarify the full name of each Ethics committee that approved your study. Please also clarify whether each hospital provided ethics approval or whether they had given permission to conduct your study.

Response: The full name of the ethics committee that has approved this study is called ‘Health Research Proposal Review and Ethics Committee’. This is a committee representing the ministry of health and is the only ethics committee in the ministry of health Eritrea that evaluates health relates studies. This committee approves or rejects any proposed study related to health depending on its domestic and international relevance and ethical soundness. Therefore, this study was only granted permission from each respective hospital based on the ethical approval and letter of authorization from the Ministry of Health as there was no ethics committee entitled to approve health-related studies in the hospitals. This issue has been modified in the text as follows (Ethics approval and consent to participate section, 26, lines 50-59 and page 27, lines 1-7)

Change in the text: First, the proposal of the study and consent procedure was evaluated by the Health Research Proposal Review and Ethics Committee of the Ministry of Health Eritrea for its research relevance and ethical soundness and was approved on 4th of August 2017. Depending on the ethics clearance paper, a support letter of authorisation to conduct the research was written to the respective hospitals by the Research and Human Resources Development Ministry of Health (No: 15,08/3586/17). With the ethics clearance paper and letter of authorization at hand permission to conduct the research was obtained from each respective hospital.

Comment: Please confirm whether the consent was written or verbal. If verbal, please confirm that your ethics committee formally approved this consent and how the verbal consent was documented.

Response: This issue regarding consent has been clarified more in the text as follows (Ethics approval and consent to participate section, page 27, line 7-24)

Change in the text: After a thorough explanation of the aim and potential outcomes of the study, written informed consent bearing the signature of the participants was obtained. The anonymity of the respondents was assured by not recording names and the affiliated institution of the respondents in the consent form. Participants received a written document with detailed information on the types of data to be collected and on how their information will be kept confidential. The researchers also explained that participation was voluntary and failure to participate would not result in any punishment or loss of benefit from the institutions or the researchers.

Comment: Please ensure that all additional files are explicitly referred to in the main text. Any items which do not meet these requirements may be deleted by our production department.
Response: In the revised text, issues regarding additional files have been modified in the test as follows (Availability of data and materials, page 27, line 32-44)

Change in the text: The questionnaire used in this study is available in the article supplementary file. The other datasets generated and analysed during the current study are not publicly available because the ethical approval and consent of participants prohibit sharing of the raw data publicly. However, when deemed necessary, the corresponding author is available to discuss any issues regarding the data requests.

Comment: Please proofread and ensure that when you upload your revised submission it is in the final form for publication. Please remove any tracked changes or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript.

Response: Both the authors have read the manuscript carefully and all necessary adjustment is done. We believe that the guideline of the journal is carefully followed and all tracking changes and highlights are removed.