Author’s response to reviews

Title: How nursing students’ placement preferences and perceptions of community care develop in a more ‘community-oriented’ curriculum: A longitudinal cohort study

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Response to reviewers BMC Nursing

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Title ‘How nursing students’ placement preferences and perceptions of community care develop in a more ‘community-oriented’ curriculum; A longitudinal cohort study’
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Reviewer 1
The manuscript is well-written and the study is of great importance.
Firstly, we would like to thank the reviewer for her/his positive comment and approach to our article.

1. Reviewer Comment
Findings: Are there differences on perception of community care between male and female students?
Author Response to Comment
Thank you for your suggestion. We noticed there was no significant difference in the development of the placement preferences between male and female students. However, this was not mentioned in the text.
Changes made to article
We added this information in the section ‘placement preferences at cohort level’.
2. Reviewer Comment
Discussion: There was significant decline on perception of community care between T1 and T2. The probable attribution could have been added in discussion.

Author Response to Comment
We agree that it has added value to discuss this. We mention the ‘dip’ at T2 and the consequences of it, but we do not discuss how this low score could be explained.

Changes made to article
We have a possible explanation about what might have caused the significant decline, and added this to the first part of the discussion section.

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3. Reviewer Comment
Spelling mistake: Table 2 (page 15, line 36) "Very few - may enjoyable relationships with patients"

Author Response to Comment
Thank you for noticing this type error (the n was missing).

Changes made to article
The type error has been corrected (few – many).

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Reviewer 2:
Thank you for submitting your paper "How nursing students' placement preferences and perceptions of community care develop in a more 'community-oriented' curriculum: a longitudinal cohort study" to BMC Nursing.

I was very interested to read this paper - thank you. Your study is comprehensive and has indeed demonstrated the influence that the academic curriculum, the lecturers that teach the students, and how clinical placement have such a profound impact on students choice. This is something that has been suspected, but your longitudinal study has provided evidence particularly how students 'change their minds' according to exposure (or not).

I do not have anything that I feel you need to alter. The paper reads well and is grammatically acceptable. Your methodology and analysis is sound and your discussion is comprehensive. Well done on a comprehensive study.

Author Response
We thank the reviewer for her/his positive comment and approach to our article. With this feedback in mind, we did not make any further changes to the manuscript.