Author’s response to reviews

Title: A framework to assess welfare mix and service provision models in health and social welfare: case studies of two prominent Italian regions

Authors:

Francesco F Longo (francesco.longo@unibocconi.it)
Elisabetta E Notarnicola (elisabetta.notarnicola@unibocconi.it)
Stefano S Tasselli (stefano.tasselli@unibocconi.it)

Version: 4 Date: 2 July 2014

Dear Editor,

Following your e-mail, that we received the 25th of June 2014, we provide a new revised version of our paper “A framework to assess welfare mix and service provision models in health and social welfare: case studies of two prominent Italian regions” to follow your suggestions and provide all the changes required. Following some remarks and consideration about you request:

1. For what concern focus groups (cited in lines 367-368 and 369-370) and ethics statements, we have to specify that participants to our focus groups were managers, practitioners and representative of the Emilia Romagna Regional Directorate and Lombardy Regional Directorate with managerial and administrative responsibilities. Since we did not collect any personal and sensitive information and since our research did not involve any at risk category, we did not ask for the approval of an ethics committee. Following the practice of our Center of Research and the leading practice of our discipline, that is management, we asked participants a general consent statements (lines 379-381).

2. For what concern access to data, all the data presented in the paper are unpublished data that have been provided by the institutions involved in the case studies and discussed during focus groups and interviews. The Emilia Romagna and Lombardy health and social welfare Regional Directorate provided all the data, in adherence with their data protection guidelines (lines 351-371 ). The only publicly available data were these regarding the National Social Insurance Institute (INPS in Italian) (lines 490-502) that can be downloaded from the website of the institution: https://www.inps.it/portale/default.aspx?itemDir=6922 ; and these regarding epidemiological and statistical prevalence of dependency cited in line372, that were taken from the Italian Statistics Institute and publicly available on the website http://www.istat.it/it/ .

3. We revised our abstract as you asked.

4. As you suggested, we improved the editing of our manuscript by submitting it for editorial review to Edanz. For this reason there may be some variation in the
number of the lines.

Thank you for the attention that you have paid to our paper,
We hope to have satisfied all of your request,
Yours faithfully
Francesco Longo
Elisabetta Notarnicola
Stefano Tasselli
CERGAS - Health and Social Care Management Research Center,
Public Policy Analysis and Management Department BOCCONI UNIVERSITY
Via Roentgen 1, MILAN, ITALY