Author’s response to reviews

Title: Using information and communication technologies to involve patients and the public in health education in rural and remote areas: a scoping review

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Author’s response to reviews:

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Maria Elisabeth Johanna Zalm, Ph.D

BMC Health Services Research

Dear Dr Zalm:

Please find attached our revised manuscript entitled “Using information and communication technologies to involve patients and the public in health education in rural and remote areas: a scoping review”. We submit this manuscript for publication in BMC Health Services Research as a scoping review article.

The present manuscript reports the results of a scoping review whose objective was to explore information and communication technologies (ICT) used for patient and the public involvement (PPI) in health education programs in rural and remote areas. Our results suggest that the main ICTs used were telephone and Internet, followed by teleconference, electronic health record, and weblogs (n=1). No study measured the effectiveness of ICT for involving patients in health education in rural and remote areas.

We have revised our manuscript and addressed the comments sent by reviewers which can be found in the table included with this letter. We added a definition of our core concept Patient and
Public Involvement. We also restructured the Methods section and improved the clarity of the writing.

The manuscript is not under consideration for publication elsewhere and no paper related to this study has been published. Each author contributed significantly to this study. All authors have read and approved the enclosed manuscript.

Thank you for considering our manuscript for publication in BMC Health Services Research. We look forward to your response. If there are any questions regarding the manuscript, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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Enclosure