Author’s response to reviews

Title: Exploring the views of being a proxy from the perspective of unpaid carers and paid carers: developing a proxy version of the Adult Social Care Outcomes Toolkit (ASCOT)

Authors:

James Caiels (j.caiels@kent.ac.uk)
Stacey Rand (S.E.Rand@kent.ac.uk)
Tanya Crowther (Tanya.Crowther@natcen.ac.uk)
Grace Collins (G.Collins@kent.ac.uk)
Julien Forder (J.E.Forder@kent.ac.uk)

Version: 2 Date: 28 Feb 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Editorial comments:

First, the institution providing the ethical clearance should be clearly mentioned in the text, as reviewer 1 mentioned.

Authors’ comments: This has been clarified in the text (page 10, lines 18-21).

Second, as reviewer 2 points out. The carer terminology should be clear and consistent. In the text, we prefer the use of the well-established terms "unpaid carer vs. paid carer" or "informal carer vs formal carer).”

Authors’ comments: This has been amended to unpaid carer and paid carer throughout.

We believe the title should also make a clear difference between unpaid carers and paid carers.
It reads: Exploring the views of being a proxy from the perspective of carers and paid care workers: developing a proxy version of the Adult Social Care Outcomes Toolkit (ASCOT).
We recommend: Exploring the views of being a proxy from the perspective of unpaid carers and paid carers: developing a proxy version of the Adult Social Care Outcomes Toolkit (ASCOT)

Authors’ comments: The title has been amended as suggested (page 1, lines 2-3).

In addition to these comments, please address the following Editorial concerns:

1. clean version
At this stage, please upload a clean version of your manuscript, without tracked changes or otherwise highlighted text, as this may interfere with the production process.

Authors’ comments: All track changes have been removed with no highlighted text.

2. Section headers
Please ensure your section headers adhere to the submission guidelines as can be found on our website (https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/submission-guidelines)
- Please remove all shading of the headers
- Please change "introduction" to "Background"

Authors’ comments: All shading of headers has been removed. ‘Introduction’ has been changed to ‘background’ (page 4, line 1).

3. List of abbreviations
Please remove your list of abbreviations from the declarations section, and insert it as a separate section right below your conclusions

Authors’ comments: This has been moved as specified (page 21, lines 13-27).

4. Declarations
Please move your declarations so that it appears below your list of abbreviations, but above your reference list.

Authors’ comments: This has been moved as specified (page 21, line 18).