Author's response to reviews

Title: Cross sectional study on attitudes of Serbian mothers with preschool children: should a HIV-positive female teacher be allowed to continue teaching in school?

Authors:

Zorica Terzic-Supic (zorica.terzic-supic@mfub.bg.ac.rs)
Milena Santric-Milicevic (msantric@med.bg.ac.rs)
Momcilo Mirkovic (momcilomirkovic76@gmail.com)
Svetlana Karic (svetlana.karic@gmail.com)
Ivan Soldatovic (soldatovic.ivan@gmail.com)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Revision note

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Cross sectional study on attitudes of Serbian mothers with preschool children: should a HIV positive female teacher be allowed to continue teaching in school?

Zorica Terzic-Supic, Milena Santric-Milicevic, Momcilo Mirkovic, Svetlana Karic, Ivan Soldatovic

Dear Mr Gato,

We would like to thank you for taking into consideration our manuscript Cross sectional study on attitudes of Serbian mothers with preschool children: should a HIV-positive female teacher be allowed to continue teaching in school? All proposals and comments we received from two reviewers were passed through carefully, and both of them were provided by point-by-point response. Also, we emphasized all changes made in our manuscript (track changes options).

Additional editing was done by native speaker of English, according to require of one reviewer (Jonathan Erskine, Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Policy and Health, School of Medicine, Pharmacy and Health, Durham University, UK.).

In order to facilitate the work of the reviewers, we are adding Revision Note, which indicates our precise respond to the reviewers’ comments. We truly hope that our work will meet all you requirements.

On behalf of all authors,

Sincerely Yours

Zorica Terzic Supic
Response to Reviewer:

Dear Sir Eshetu Girma

We would like to thank you for your time and assistance.
Response to Reviewer

Dear Sir Abraham Mukolo,

We would like to thank you for your time and assistance, appreciating your professional advice and trying to accept comments and suggestions. Also, thank you for critically reading the manuscript and helpful comments and suggestions.

Line 119-122: Sentence was deleted during English editing
Line 129 - 134: We deleted space and reorganised the sentence
Line 144: We added 'the' before capacity
Line 146: We added 'and' before promoting
Line 239: We deleted extra comma
Line 259: We replaced 'a' with 'or'
Line 261: We added 'the' before HIV
Line 268: Your comment about results we added in Discussion section Line 404 - 407
Line 285-287: The sentence was deleted during English editing Line 303 – 305: The sentence was deleted
Line 309 – 322: The paragraph has been simplified for clarity
Line 351: We added 'a' between 'using' and 'condom'
Line 354: We added 'mother-to-child HIV transmission' and deleted hyphen
Line 374: We deleted quotation mark
Line 380: We added country where the study was conducted (the USA)
Line 3823: We included a reference
Line 391: We added 'a' before number
Line 393: We added more citations to support the point that there are a number of studies
Line 396: We added 'the' before situation
Line 398 – 400: We moved sentence from Line 408-410 to Line 398-400:
In the UK, majority would feel comfortable working with a colleague who had HIV and believe that people with HIV deserve the same support and respect as those with cancer (53).

Line 400 - 401: We deleted 'it is a fact" and replace with "Bernays and colleagues (54) have reported"

Line 413-416: We rephrased sentences:

Several studies show connection among the mental disease, stigma and HIV (18, 55, 56).

Line 421 -423: We put next sentence according to your suggestion:

If the stigma-induced distress was to exceed one's coping ability, then the observed stigmatizing attitudes could lead to adverse psychological outcomes.

Line 425: We put next sentence according to your suggestion

Such a process needs to be further investigated, particularly among women in Serbia.

Line 427: We added 'an' between 'is' and 'additional'

Line 428: We deleted the sentence Line 428 – 430. It is similar with the two next sentences Line 430 – 433

Line 437: According to your suggestion, we put 'the advocacy' instead of 'fight'

Line 439: We included the new reference as you suggested:


Line 445: Limitation section was reorganised

Line 479: According to your suggestion, now the first sentence of the Conclusion is:

*Insufficient knowledge about HIV/AIDS, discriminatory attitudes and uncertainty about the safety of interacting with persons living with HIV influence the decision whether a HIV positive teacher should be allowed to continue teaching in school.*

Line 481: The second sentence of the Conclusion section was deleted. Line 484: We deleted the first sentence of the second paragraph, according to your suggestion

Additional editing was done by native speaker of English, according to your suggestion (Jonathan Erskine, Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Policy and Health, School of Medicine, Pharmacy and Health, Durham University, UK.).

Also, during English editing the text has been shortened.