Author’s response to reviews

Title: Patterns of Illness Disclosure among Indian Slum-Dwellers: A Qualitative Study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Professor Natalie Pafitis

November 27th, 2017

Editor-in-chief

BMC International Health and Human Rights

Dear Prof. Pafitis,

It is with excitement that we resubmit to you a revised version of manuscript IHHR-D-17-00007R2, Patterns of Illness Disclosure among Indian Slum-dwellers: A Qualitative Study for the BMC International Health and Human Rights. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to revise and resubmit this manuscript. In keeping with our last communication, I am resubmitting this revision before the agreed upon deadline, November 30th, 2017. We appreciate the time and details provided by the editor and have incorporated the last round of editorial comments in the manuscript. The manuscript has certainly benefited from these insightful revision suggestions. We hope the revised version is now suitable for publication in the Journal of BMC International Health and Human Rights and look forward to hearing from you in due course.
The last round of editorial comments has requested the following additional actions to be taken on the manuscript. We have addressed each of the concerns as outlined below.

Comment 1. The article should be copyedited by a native speaker, to improve the English language.

Response 1: A professional native speaker has now copyedited and returned the manuscript with the necessary corrections that we have incorporated.

Comment 2: Please move your 'List of abbreviations' to before your 'Declarations' section.

Response 2: We have incorporated the comment which can be viewed in pp: 36/Line 904-907

Comment 3: As the Institute for Social and Economic Change is not an ethics committee, we require that you discuss your study with a local ethics committee now and obtain confirmation that your study would not have required ethics approval. Please also send through documentation from the ethics committee which supports this and please remove your current additional file from the ISEC. You would also need to update your 'Ethics approval and consent to participate' section accordingly.

Response 3: ISEC has followed the study since its inception and has recently formed an Ethical Committee Board, which has formally evaluated the study on November 10th 2017 and granted the ethical approval. We have now enclosed the ethical consent letter of the Institutional Review Board from ISEC.

Accordingly, we updated the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate' both in the methodology (pp.8&9, line no: 213 and 214) and in the declaration section (pageno.37 /line no: 911-914)