Author’s response to reviews

Title: A description of a tailored knowledge translation intervention delivered by knowledge brokers within public health departments in Canada

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The following revisions have been made:

Reviewer 1:

However, it is not clear if the Knowledge Brokers are the KT intervention (or part of it) or just delivering the KT intervention. Table 1 outlines the interventions, tailored for each site, which would suggest the KB's are just delivering the intervention (and are not the intervention themselves), but the conclusions suggest that KB's should be the KT intervention.

Thank you for your comment. It gave us the opportunity to clarify the framing of the intervention. The conclusion sections of the abstract and manuscript have been revised to better clarify that the focus of this paper is a knowledge translation intervention which was delivered by knowledge brokers, rather than the knowledge translation intervention being knowledge brokering.

It would be helpful to start the KT Intervention section with a description of the KT intervention, maybe indicating that the KBs are part of the intervention. It is alluded to in Table 1 with mention of KBs, but I think it could be clearer. Are the KB's important to this KT intervention (for fidelity) or could other change agents suffice?
As suggested the knowledge translation intervention was described in greater detail at the beginning of the section labelled KT intervention. We also further clarified that knowledge brokers delivered the intervention rather than being the intervention. We have also added to the intervention description section as well as the discussion comments about other change agent roles, and raised the question about the need to explore if and how change agents, including knowledge brokers, impact EIDM.

Lines 301-304 - I find this part a bit confusing - isn't what is outlined here actually part of the intervention in the first place? "In addition to implementing the different components of the KT intervention, the KBs in this study also helped public health professionals identify and appraise best available research evidence and determine actionable messages from the research evidence, as well as assist in tailoring this evidence for use in the contexts in which the public health professionals worked." Table 1 indicates "KB mentored staff teams through rapid evidence reviews and provided EIDM training" - the EIDM training involves the 7 steps which include what is listed in lines 301-304, does it not?

We agree with the reviewer that the steps outlined in lines 301-304 are part of the KT intervention. The text has been revised to incorporate this perspective.

On Line 156 (original version) the word ‘were’ was removed.

On line 207 (original version) the words ‘time onsite’ were added.

The font size of the Conclusion was changed to conform to the rest of the paper: Times New Roman 12.

Reviewer 2:

I enjoyed reading the article; but I think that it is more like a "lesson from field" article than a research article.

Thank you for your comment. The intent of this article is to disseminate “lessons from the field” in doing knowledge translation research in public health. As there is no journal format for a “lesson from the field”, we have formatted the article as a research article.