Author’s response to reviews

Title: Addressing challenges in scaling up TB and HIV treatment integration in rural primary healthcare clinics in South Africa (SUTHI): a cluster randomized controlled trial protocol

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Author’s response to reviews:

The Editor
BMC Implementation Science
BioMed Central Floor 6
236 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8HB
United Kingdom
Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Submission of protocol paper: Addressing challenges in scaling up TB and HIV treatment integration in rural primary healthcare clinics in South Africa (SUTHI): a cluster randomized controlled trial protocol

Thank you for your prompt feedback. Kindly find below point by point response to your comments.

Point by Point Response to the Editor’s comments

1. We expect you to report the study according to the published CONSORT recommendations for cluster trials. As such, please complete (as far as you can as it is a protocol) the CONSORT checklist for cluster RCTs see: http://www.consort-statement.org.

   Response: Thank you. Please find attached a copy of the completed 2012 CONSORT checklist for cluster RCTS as requested.

2. In particular, you need to state how you have accounted for clustering effects in your sample size calculations.

   Response: This has been addressed in pages 13 and 14.

3. Please remove Fig 3 as we feel it replicates information already included in the main text and in Fig 1 and Table 2.

   Response: Fig 3 has been removed.

4. When you re-submit your manuscript please attach: 1) One copy where your changes are highlighted (track changes) 2) A separate, point-by-point response to the editor comments, including page numbers for changes in the text.

   Response: We have prepared the document as specified and it can be found in the submission portal as directed.
Yours sincerely,

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