Author’s response to reviews

Title: Mapping the Reach of a Rural Transitions Nurse Program for Veterans with Geographic Information Systems

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The first bullet says that "Evaluating the reach of an intervention into a targeted population is key to understanding the impact and generalizability of the intervention. The implementation science literature has indicated that the reach of an intervention is key to the successful planning of any program." However, the paper is not about evaluating the reach of the intervention, rather just showing it. It's also not clear how evaluating the reach helps with impact and generalizability. Could you address these concerns in rewritten point or change the point?

Response: Thank you. We changed this point to reflect the problem we were hoping to address around the inability to measure reach, as explained in our backgrounds section (Page 4, lines 24-25).

Page 3, lines 2-4

The second bullet says, "Geographic information systems are a commonly used method approach to visualize complex data and support audit and feedback communication efforts," which isn't positioned as a contribution to the literature.

Response: Thank you, this is true. We instead changed this point to explain what this study was hoping to measure and why this was important to our care transitions program.
The third bullet says "The methods presented in our study contribute to implementation science communication by presenting a how-to guide for creating geographic information system maps to communicate the reach of an intervention to stakeholders" but the paper does not seem to present a how-to guide for creating the maps.

Response: This is also true. We instead revised this bullet to summarize the findings of the study and confirm that GIS is a useful communication tool that can be used in other healthcare research aims.