

Author's response to reviews

Title: Use of communities of practice in business and health care sectors: A systematic review

Authors:

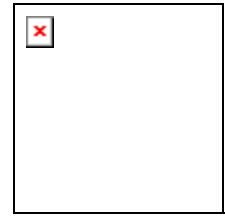
Linda C Li (lli@arthritisresearch.ca)
Jeremy M Grimshaw (jgrimshaw@ohri.ca)
Camilla P Nielsen (CPN@SST.DK)
Maria Judd (mgiudd@yahoo.ca)
Peter C Coyte (peter.coyte@utoronto.ca)
Ian D Graham (Ian.Graham@cihr.gc.ca)

Version: 3 **Date:** 17 March 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over



Linda Li, PT, PhD
UBC Department of Physical Therapy
Arthritis Research Centre of Canada
895 W 10th Ave, Rm 324
Vancouver BC V5Z 1L7
Tel: 604.871-4577; Fax: 604.879-3791
E-mail: lli@arthritisresearch.ca



March 17, 2009

Dr. Robbie Foy
Associate Editor, *Implementation Science*

Dear Dr. Foy,

RE: Use of communities of practice in business and health care sectors: A systematic review.
MS: 2310966272499407

Enclosed please find the re-revision of the abovementioned paper and our response to the reviewer. We have highlighted the section where major changes have been made.

We would like to thank you and the reviewer for the helpful comments, which have helped to improve the manuscript.

We look forward to your decision about this manuscript.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linda Li'.

Linda Li, PT, PhD

Response to Reviewers

Manuscript title: Use of communities of practice in business and health care sectors: A systematic review

Date: March 17, 2009

We thank the Reviewer again for his comments. Below please find our response. We have highlighted the section in the manuscript where the change was made.

Response to Henry Anaya's comments

1. *"It is true that your study "contributes to the understanding" of CoP. What is not expressed is that the lag between your final data collection period and today (4+years) in all likelihood has missed important new findings that could inform the field. Therefore, your paper is not as comprehensive as could (or should) be. This is a serious limitation and although you may not have the inclination at this late date for a reanalysis with refreshed data, this problem should not be minimized by stating that this work "contributes to the understanding". It does, but there is a big (4 year) gap in knowledge which needs to be elucidated more clearly as a serious limitation."*

- We have revised the description about this particular limitation in the Discussion section (pg. 16, 2nd paragraph):

"A major limitation of this review was that we only included publications between 1991 and 2005, meaning that there was a four-year lag between the initial literature search and the publication of this paper. Due to the complexity of the data extraction and synthesis, the study took longer than expected to complete. However, because of the significant time gap it is possible that we have missed important new findings that could inform the field."