

Author's response to reviews

Title: The role of conversation in health care interventions: Enabling sensemaking and learning

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Author's response to reviews:

February 24, 2009

Dear Dr. Mittman:

Thank you for your careful reading of our manuscript. We appreciate the careful work of the copy editors. We have accepted all the changes suggested by the copy editors.

1. We edited the author listing on the title page to include only name, department, institution, city, state, country. We removed the sentence about funding support provided by the American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professorship, including that acknowledgment in the acknowledgements section.
2. Thank you for moving our footnoted text to the body of the paper. We have accepted those changes.
3. At this stage in the evolution of the paper, we no longer need to material that is in the appendix, so we have simply removed it from the paper. At an earlier stage, the appendix might well have been very helpful, but now it is not needed to understand the arguments being made in the paper. We have deleted all references to the appendix in the body of the paper.
4. As regards reference [60] we have taken it out of the heading and inserted it into the paragraph below so that we could reference it appropriately.
5. We have inserted sections entitled "Competing interests" and "authors' contributions".

We have highlighted all of our changes to the manuscript in yellow.

In addition to responding to the copy editing issues, we examined the reviewers' final (minor) comments. In response to Reviewer 1, we made no changes to the manuscript. However, we are grateful for the reviewer's support. We wish to

recognize the reviewer's concern that interventions themselves may be flawed. After carefully considering this issue, we decided that in order to address the issue, we would go far afield and unnecessarily complicate the arguments in this paper. Of course interventions can be flawed. In such cases, conversation may aid in reducing the effects of these flaws. Although this is an interesting idea to pursue in future work, we feel we could not do it justice within the framework of this paper.

In response to Reviewer 2, we have changed the second sentence in the first paragraph of the summary to clearly indicate the theory that we have suggested in the paper.

Thank you very much for your help with this manuscript. We look forward to working with the publisher's production staff to complete the publication process.

Sincerely:

Michelle Jordan

Corresponding author