

January 8, 2016

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in both Word format (ESPS.ManuscriptNo.21782.Edited.1-9-16.docx)

Title: Systematic review of character development and childhood chronic illness

Authors: Gary Maslow and Sherika Hill

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics*

ESPS Manuscript No.: 21782

We would like to thank the peer reviewers who took the time to carefully read and review our manuscript. We appreciate the feedback we received and are delighted that the reviewers found this topic to be an important issue to address in the literature.

- 1) We appreciate the reviewer's comments about the limitation of the review in that only three articles were identified for this review. It is unfortunate that there is such a dearth of information on this topic, and we also appreciate the recognition that the potential for future research will hopefully remedy this issue.
- 2) Thank you for identifying the not yet published citation. We have removed the citation and changed the text to indicate that this information is from unpublished data.
- 3) As noted by the reviewer, all journal titles needed the appropriate abbreviations in the references list. We have made these changes. Please see pages 16-18 for the updated references list.

Responses to comments from the editor: We appreciate the time you took to review our manuscript and provide comments for improvement and formatting.

In the next pages, please see detailed responses to the comments by the reviewers and editor.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics*.

Sincerely,



Gary Maslow, MD, MPH

We again thank the reviewers and editor for reviewing our manuscript and providing comments to improve the text. All modifications are highlighted in the text.

Reviewers' comments and responses:

Reviewer 00158184

Comment: Manuscript is fairly interesting.

Response: Thank you for reading the manuscript and appreciating the context of the research.

Reviewer 00503255

Comment: The author conducted a systematic review to find character strengths among youth with chronic illness, found that there was no empirical research regarding this area of study, and proposed how to design future studies on this research. Major point 1. Because only three studies were found without any empirical research, no conclusion was made from this systematic review regarding character development among youth with chronic illness. As mentioned by authors, it is weak point of this paper. However, since they provided how to deal with future research on this area in the paper, it made this review valuable. Minor points 2. If reference No. 12 is not accepted for publication, do not include it in the list of references. It should be noted in the text as "unpublished data" 3. Journal title should be written in its abbreviated form as shown in PubMed or NLM catalogue: Please change "Journal of Youth Development" to "J Youth Dev", "The Journal of Early Adolescence" to "J Early Adolesc", "Journal of Pediatric Nursing" to "J Pediatr Nurs", "Journal of Burn Care & Research: Official Publication of the American Burn Association" to "J Burn Care Res", and "American Annals of the Deaf" to "Am Ann Deaf".

Response: Thank you for your careful reading and reviewing of our manuscript.

Major point 1: Thank you for noting the limitation of this review. It is unfortunate that there is such a dearth of information on this topic, and we also appreciate the recognition that the potential for future research will hopefully remedy this issue.

Minor point 1: Reference #12 was not accepted for publication, and we removed the citation from the reference list. Additionally, we noted in the manuscript text that the information was from unpublished data.

Minor point 2: Thank you for identifying the errors in our citations. We have made the changes as noted regarding common abbreviations for journal titles in the reference list.

Reviewer 02445281

Comment: This manuscript points out an unattended problem requiring urgent solution. In agreement with authors, it is noticeable the absence of articles dealing with the impact of

chronic diseases on the development of personality among youth. In fact, a very critical and very important, but unattended theme is the care and research about youth's health and development, perhaps with the exception of drug addiction. The manuscript is well written, designed, and analyzed. Inclusively, the discussion section contains some proposals.

Response: Thank you for your comments.

Responses to editor's comments:

- 1) The manuscript was written by native speakers of English so a language certificate is not applicable for this submission.
- 2) Support statement: We have included a document that provides a summary about the grant that supported this research. It is signed and in pdf format.
- 3) Conflict of Interest Statement: The conflict of interest statement is provided in a footnote in the manuscript text and as a separate, signed pdf document. There are no conflicts of interest to declare.
- 4) Data Sharing Statement: The data sharing statement is provided in a footnote in the manuscript text and as a separate, signed pdf document. Because this is a review, there are no data to share.
- 5) Biostatistics Statement: The biostatistics statement is provided in the manuscript text (under Study Selection subtopic of the Methods Section). This statement is also provided in signed, pdf format.
- 6) Figure 2 has been changed to word format to assist with modifications made by the editor.
- 7) Comments section: We added the comments section at the end of the manuscript text.