

## Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Postsurgical Pain Outcome of Vertical and Transverse Abdominal Incision: Design of a randomized controlled equivalence trial POVATI-Trial (ISRCTN60734227)

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Dear Editors,

please find enclosed the revised version of our original paper: "Postsurgical Pain Outcome of Vertical and Transverse Abdominal Incision: Design of a randomized controlled equivalence trial - POVATI-Trial".

We made the following revisions as indicated by Ms. Emma Parkin, Editorial Administrator, BMC Journals:

1. The abstract has been re-structured in "Background, Methods and Conclusions". As the manuscript is a study protocol of the currently running POVATI-trial, results will be published in a consecutive paper upon the end of the trial and upon completion of the statistical analysis.
2. The structure of the manuscript is as described: "Abstract, Background, Conclusion, Competing Interests, Author's Contribution, Acknowledgements, References, Tables". As stated above, the results of the trial will be published in a consecutive paper upon the end of the trial and upon completion of the statistical analysis.
3. All unnecessary capitalization from the section headings have been removed.
4. The included Figure 1 was changed in Table 2 and the sequence of the Tables 1 - 3 was changed .

We hope that all changes commensurate with your conceivability and that the manuscript will be accepted.

As Ms. Emma Parkin ensured by email, you have already received the required documentations for the funding of this trial and the ethical approval.

Since innovation in surgery is also enhanced by the new electronic journals, we regard BMC Surgery as an ideal organ for this article.

We cordially thank you in advance for your consideration of our manuscript and for all your troubles.

Yours sincerely,

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