Author's response to reviews

Title: The importance of adjusting for potential confounders in Bayesian hierarchical models synthesising evidence from randomised and non-randomised studies: an application comparing treatments for abdominal aortic aneurysms

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear BMC Medical Research Methodology,

Regarding your request for formatting changes, we have made the following changes to manuscript MS: 1273259367352585 – “The importance of adjusting for potential confounders in Bayesian hierarchical models synthesising evidence from randomised and non-randomised studies: an application comparing treatments for abdominal aortic aneurysms” by C. Elizabeth McCarron, Eleanor M Pullenayegum, Lehana Thabane, Ron Goeree and Jean-Eric Tarride.

The following format changes have been made:

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Major revisions (we require the author to make these changes)

1. Equations/formulas: Please note that the PDF version of articles in this journal is laid out in a two-column format. We therefore request that you break long equations so that they can be rendered legibly within an 85mm column width.

1. Equations have been edited to fit legibly within an 85mm column width.

Minor revisions (we can make these changes for you, although it will speed up publication of your manuscript if you do them while making the major changes above)

2. Tracking, highlighting and comments: Please remove.
2. Tracking, highlighting and comments have been removed.

3. Typography: Please take this opportunity to check your manuscript for any typographical errors and to make any final corrections or revisions. This is the final proofing stage for your manuscript, and you will not be able to make any changes after acceptance.

3. The paper has been proof-read and final corrections and revisions have been made.

The following format change has not been made:

4. Figures: It is important for the final layout of the manuscript that the figures are cropped as closely as possible to minimise white space around the image.

4. We were not sure how to do this and request that you please make the required formatting changes to Figure 1.