Author’s response to reviews

Title: Learning from Failure - Rationale and Design for a Study about DISCOntinuation of Randomized Trials (DISCO study)

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We thank you for your prompt reply and for reconsidering a revised version of our manuscript for publication in BMC Med Res Methodol.

We have addressed all your questions in the point-by-point reply. We are happy to address any further suggestions or concerns you might have. We are looking forward to your reply.

Sincerely Yours

[Signature]

PD Dr. Matthias Briel

Point by point reply:

1) Could you please clarify whether you have ethical approval and external funding for your study, and if so, could you send evidence of your approvals to the address below?

REPLY: Yes, we received competitive funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation (governmental organisation and major Swiss funding agency) as stated in the Conflicts of interest and funding section of the manuscript. We also submitted our protocol for approval to the ethics committees of all involved centres. They either approved our study or stated that no ethical approval was necessary. We have attached pdf copies of ethical and funding approvals and their translations to this response letter.

2) Could you also provide a list of any manuscripts that are under submission with other journals based on this study protocol?

REPLY: There are no other manuscripts under submission with other journals. This is the first manuscript based on this study protocol.