Author's response to reviews

Title: Feasibility, recruitment and factors associated with motivation and satisfaction in an interventional study with 210 healthy volunteers without financial compensation.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find, herewith, one online copy of the above-mentioned original research manuscript, which we are pleased to submit to the *BMC Medical Research Methodology* for publication.

Few biomedical research studies were conducted with healthy volunteers without financial compensation. Financial emoluments are often necessary to recruit a sufficient number of healthy volunteers.

The originality of our study is to highlight feasibility of recruitment, motivation and satisfaction of healthy volunteers participating without financial compensation in interventional study. We realised this work for an interventional study conducted in our hospital, requiring the recruitment of 210 healthy volunteers without financial compensation. Our work illustrates the difficulty of such recruitment, despite our large database of more 1500 healthy volunteers. Apart this database, the most effective source of cognizance regarding the interventional study was word-of-mouth, especially for the younger participants. Social networks and radio were the worse sources. The main motivation reported for participating was to support research. However another major benefit, apart from financial compensation seems important for recruitment of healthy volunteers. In our study, information on emergency first-aid was proposed and has been reported as the second motivation. Satisfaction level was high and significantly higher for women.

We hope that these results will be useful for other investigators to anticipate and organize the recruitment of healthy volunteers.
All the authors approved the manuscript for submission and declare no potential competing interests. The manuscript has not been published previously, and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

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Thank you for considering our article for publication in *BMC Medical Research Methodology*.

Yours sincerely,

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