Author's response to reviews

Title: The effect of intensive nutrition interventions on weight gain after kidney transplantation: protocol of a randomised controlled trial

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21 August 2014

Dr Hayley Henderson
Executive Editor
BMC Nephrology
236 Gray’s Inn Road
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United Kingdom

Dear Dr Henderson,

Thank you for the opportunity to answer editorial queries regarding the submission of our manuscript “The effect of intensive nutrition interventions on weight gain after kidney transplantation: protocol of a randomised controlled trial” for publication in BMC Nephrology as a study protocol.

**Requesting ethics and funding proofs**

1. Ethics and Funding approval documentation
   I have separately forwarded pdf versions of the original Ethics approval and amendments approval, and a MSWord copy of the current approved protocol document) for our study via to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com as requested.

2. Funding
   This study has received two funding grants, from (1) the Auckland District Health Board Charitable Trust, which provides projects grants to investigators working within the Auckland District Health Board; and (2) a quality assurance grant from the Australian and NZ Society of Nephrology (from funds donated to the society as an unrestricted grant by Amgen Australia Pty Ltd; the study has not been received any direct commercial funding or assistance). Although these bodies do not strictly meet the criteria of a ‘major funding body’, external peer review was undertaken as part of the competitive process of awarding these grants. I have separately forwarded these funding approval documents (including peer review where provided to us) to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com, as above. Please note that the A+ Trust review comments refer to this as a pilot
trial (as does the original Ethics approval); subsequent to the initial Ethics
approval and to this successful grant application, the sample size was increased in
light of this peer review and further statistical advice received. As such the trial
has been designed and powered to investigate a primary efficacy outcome, not as
a pilot trial.

3. Study status
The study is currently ongoing. At the time of writing, 13 participants had been
recruited; our recruitment target is 32 participants.

4. Related articles
There have been no publications or manuscripts submitted in relation to this
study.

**Line numbering, Title page and Authors Contributions**
These changes have been made to the revised manuscript as requested.

Thank you very much for considering our manuscript for publication, and I look
forward to hearing the outcome of your consideration. Given that neither of the
funding bodies who have provided the grants for the study are a major funding body,
and that we have made changes to the study after funding was approved, we accept
that you may require our submitted manuscript to undergo further peer review before
deciding on its suitability for publication.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Michael Collins MBChB FRACP PhD
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