Author's response to reviews

Title: Modified constraint-induced movement therapy or conventional occupational therapy following injection of Botulinum toxin-A to improve bimanual performance in children with hemiplegic cerebral palsy: A randomised controlled trial methods paper

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to reviewer’s comments including list of changes made

Authors: Hoare et al.
Title: Modified constraint-induced movement therapy or conventional occupational therapy following injection of Botulinum toxin-A to improve bimanual performance in children with hemiplegic cerebral palsy: A randomised controlled trial methods paper
Date: 5th June, 2010

Thank you for your additional feedback on this manuscript. Below we have included each comment by the reviewer in bold followed by our responses indicating where we have made changes.

Furthermore, f.ex., the diagnosis of spastic hemiplegia is more or less vague, but it is more accurate, if it is defined as a) congenital, b) includes (or excludes) the mildest cases with maybe only one-sided abnormal reflexes, and includes/excludes quadriplegia with predominantly one-sided hemiplegia.

We have added the following point to the exclusion criteria to improve the clarity of children included in the trial:

• Congenital quadriplegic or diplegic cerebral palsy

We also added the following statement at the end of the exclusion criteria: “There were no criteria relating to exclusion of children with mother tongue other than English, presence of co-morbidity or socio-economic status”.

We trust these responses address the issues and recommendations made by the reviewer and hope that they meet the criteria for publication in BMC Neurology.

Sincerely,

Brian Hoare, on behalf of all authors.