Author's response to reviews

Title: How to improve walking, balance and social participation following stroke: a comparison of the long term effects of two walking aids - canes and an orthosis TheraTogs - on the recovery of gait following acute stroke. A study protocol for a multi-centre, single blind, randomised control trial.

Authors:

Clare Maguire (clare.maguire@bzgbs.ch)
Judith M Sieben (j.sieben@maastrichtuniversity.nl)
Florian Erzer (f.erzer@rehab.ch)
Beat Goepfert (Beat.Goepfert@unibas.ch)
Matthias Frank (matthias.frank@fps-basel.ch)
Georg Ferber (Statistik.Georg.Ferber@bluewin.ch)
Melissa Jehn (melissa.jehn@unibas.ch)
Arno Schmidt-Trucksaess (arno.schmidt-trucksaess@unibas.ch)
Rob A de Bie (ra.debie@epid.unimaas.nl)

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Author's response to reviews:

Cover Letter 5.02.2012 Re: Editorial Request from 2.02.2012

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Study protocol

How to improve walking, balance and social participation following stroke: a comparison of the long term effects of two walking aids - canes and an orthosis TheraTogs - on the recovery of gait following acute stroke. A study protocol for a multi-centre, single blind, randomised control trial.

Clare Maguire, Judith M Sieben, Florian Erzer, Beat Goepfert, Matthias Frank, Georg Ferber, Melissa Jehn, Arno Schmidt-Trucksaess and Rob A de Bie

BMC Neurology

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you very much for reviewing this manuscript and for accepting it for publication in BMC Neurology.

Please find the following changes made to the submitted manuscript as requested in your mail of the 2.02.2012:

1. The Trial Registration Number has been corrected in the manuscript and is now NCT01366729.

2. The three cantonal ethics committees that have approved the study have been named in the manuscript on page 9 under the heading “Design and setting” with the following text: “Ethical approval has been obtained from the following
cantonal ethics committees: Basel (Ethikkommission Beider Basel), Luzern (Ethikkommission Kanton Luzern), Aargau (Ethikkommission Kanton Aargau).”

3. The additional files containing ethical approval have been removed.

Thank you for your assistance and for the time taken to consider this research protocol.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Maguire.