Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Observational Dutch Young Symptomatic Stroke study (ODYSSEY): study rationale and protocol of a multicentre prospective cohort study.

**Authors:**

Renate R.M. Arntz (r.Arntz@neuro.umcn.nl)
Nathalie N.E. Synhave (n.synhaeve@elisabeth.nl)
Mayte M.E. van Alebeek (m.vanalebeek@neuro.umcn.nl)
Paul P.J. Brouwers (p.brouwers@mst.nl)
Gert G.W. van Dijk (g.v.dijk@cwz.nl)
Rob R.A. Gons (rob.gons@catharina-ziekenhuis.nl)
Tom T den Heijer (t.denheijer@sfg.nl)
Paul P.L.M. de Kort (p.d.kort@elisabeth.nl)
Karlijn K.F. de Laat (k.delaat@hagaziekenhuis.nl)
Anouk A.G. van Norden (AvanNorden@amphia.nl)
Sarah S.E. Vermeer (svermeer@rijnstate.nl)
Roy R.P.C. Kessels (r.kessels@mps.umcn.nl)
Ewoud E.J. van Dijk (e.vandijk@neuro.umcn.nl)
Frank-Erik H.F. de Leeuw (h.deleeuw@neuro.umcn.nl)

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 10 July 2013

**Author's response to reviews:** see over
T. Shipley, executive editor

BMC Neurology

Nijmegen, July 2013

Subject: Coverletter after revision of manuscript

Dear Dr. Shipley,

Please find enclosed our revised manuscript entitled: ‘The Observational Dutch Young Symptomatic StrokE study (ODYSSEY): study rationale and protocol of a multicentre prospective cohort study’. We thank you for considering our manuscript for publication in BMC Neurology and we hereby provide you with a point-by-point response to the concerns you mentioned.

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?

- We have received ethical approval provided by The Medical Review Ethics Committee region Arnhem-Nijmegen (NL41531.091.12). Evidence of this ethical approval, both original as translated in English, was sent to editorial@biomedcentral.com at your request.
- Our study has not received external funding and the study has not received funding or assistance from a commercial organization.

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

- There are no other manuscripts under submission with other journals based on this study protocol.

BioMed Central requires all controlled clinical trials to be registered in a suitable publicly accessible registry prior to consideration for publication.

- We have no trial-registration as our study is a multicenter prospective cohort.

As a comment on your request to remove the names of the group from the title page and place them in the Acknowledgements, we would like to emphasize that we would like to acknowledge every author specifically on the front page.

We trust that this letter has provided you with sufficient information and that you will further consider our manuscript for publication in BMC Neurology.
Yours sincerely,

Mayte van Alebeek (M.vanAlebeek@neuro.umcn.nl)
Frank Erik de Leeuw, MD, PhD, Corresponding author (h.deleeuw@neuro.umcn.nl)
Department of Neurology (326), Donders Center for Neuroscience
Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre,
PO Box 9101, 6500 HB, Nijmegen
The Netherlands
0031-24-3613394 (tel.)/ 0031-24-3541122 (fax)