Author's response to reviews

Title: Preventing preterm birth with progesterone: costs and effects of screening low risk women with a singleton pregnancy for short cervical length, the Triple P study

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Dear Editor,
Herewith we would like to submit our revised manuscript for publication in “BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth”. Enclosed you will find the manuscript entitled: “Preventing preterm birth with progesterone: costs and effects of screening low risk women with a singleton pregnancy for short cervical length, the Triple P study” by Melanie van Os for the Triple P project group. Points of revision are described below.

Spontaneous preterm delivery is the single most important cause of perinatal mortality in the Western world. Although it is already known that cervical length measurement at 20 to 22 weeks can identify women at increased risk for preterm delivery, an effective treatment has not been available until recently.

We plan a combined screen and treat study among women with a singleton pregnancy without a previous preterm birth, to evaluate whether screening for a short cervix and subsequent treatment with progesterone in mid trimester pregnancy is effective.

This study protocol has not been otherwise published or presented. All authors have made substantial contributions to this work, have approved the final version and accept responsibility for it. No person who rightfully qualifies for authorship for this manuscript has been omitted. None of the authors have personal or commercial associations that might pose a conflict of interest.

Correspondence concerning this manuscript should be addressed to the address described above in the header.

The revised manuscript was adapted on the following points:
1) Netherlands Trial Registry, was added as Trial registration.

2) The trial registration number was added at the foot of the Abstract in the submission system.

3) Authors’ contributions was revised so that it details the specific contribution of each author.

4) The manuscripts format was changed and now conforms to the journal style.

Yours sincerely,

M. van Os, M.D.