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 author list: the list of authors in the manuscript and the list of authors in the submission system we made identical.

2 The email address given on the title page for the corresponding author is made identical to that given in the submissions system

3 The blank page from the manuscript was removed.

4 The term 'et al.' was replaced in the reference list.

Yours sincerely,

M. van Os, M.D.