Author’s response to reviews

Title: Study protocol: PoPE- Prediction of Preterm delivery by Electrohysterography

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear editorial board of BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth,

Please find enclosed the manuscript: “Study protocol: PoPE- Prediction of Preterm delivery by Electrohysterography” to be submitted as a study protocol.

In this manuscript we describe the rationale and methods for the ongoing PoPE clinical trial which is currently enrolling patients. This observational study aims to test conduction velocity analysis in the electrohysterogram (EHG) as a clinical tool for detecting imminent preterm delivery. The analysis of single spike propagation in the EHG is a challenging but a very promising parameter for detecting imminent preterm delivery [1]. We aim to make the analysis of the conduction velocity more objective and reproducible by introducing an automated approach for the EHG analysis. We will test the diagnostic accuracy of this method in a prospective clinical study in order to make the next step towards a clinical application.

Ethical approval was provided by the medical ethical committee of the Máxima Medical center and has been sent to BMCseriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com. We certify that the submission is not under review or has been published at any other journal.

We have uploaded a revised version of the manuscript in which one reference has been updated [2].

Sincerely yours,

Hinke de Lau on behalf of the authors.

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