Author's response to reviews

Title: The (cost) effectiveness of an online intervention for pregnant women with affective symptoms: protocol of a randomised controlled trial

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Dear Mr. O'Donovan,

Thank you for your kind email.

Regarding to your first question where you ask about the connection between the EMGO+ institute and the VUMC I can answer that the EMGO+ Institute for Health and Care Research (EMGO+) is one of the interfaculty research institutes of the VU University Medical Center Amsterdam and the VU University Amsterdam. The approval of their scientific committee only concerns the scientific part of the protocol.

The ethical committee verifies if the study is set according to the Dutch law to protect the participants. However before submitting the protocol to the ethical committee the approval of one of the research institutes e.g. the EMGO+ Institute, is obligatory.

I just have updated the manuscript and the submission system with the TRN.

I hope that I answered your questions properly and that everything is ready for the peer-review process, although I am more than willing to answer more questions.

Sincerely yours, Hanna M. Heller