Author's response to reviews

Title: Fear of hypoglycaemia in parents of young children with type 1 diabetes: a systematic review

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To: The Editor, BMC Paediatrics

Thank you for your very positive email of 30th June 2010 regarding the manuscript “Fear of hypoglycaemia in parents of young children with type 1 diabetes: a systematic review”, your decision in principle to accept the manuscript, and forwarding to us the referee’s further comments.

We agree that a review of anxiety and fear of hypos amongst parents of adolescents would be useful, but that would be a separate review. We feel that the balance of responsibility for management of diabetes shifts from parents to children during adolescence, and we expect that hypo avoidance behaviour in the children becomes increasingly important. Part of our motivation for doing this review was a feeling that structured education for parents might be worthwhile, so we plan to remain focused on this age group and carry out some qualitative work to determine how structured education could best help.

We have revised the manuscript in the light of these comments and provided a table giving a point-by-point response to the concerns raised by the referees (see below). Also, we have made the required formatting changes.

Response to reviewer’s report

| Desirability for similar review in adolescents | We agree with the reviewer but that would be another review. The evidence base would be better because of the number of studies. |
| Limitations in quality of studies | Summary paragraph added, plus we have reviewed the QA table and clarified some items, using the term ‘not reported’ in place of ‘unclear’ where appropriate. |

Yours faithfully

Dr Katharine Barnard