Author's response to reviews

Title: Short-term outcomes of community-based adolescent weight management: The Loozit(R) Study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Ms Pafitis,

Re: Manuscript #2396045823803252

Manuscript Title: Short-term outcomes of community-based adolescent weight management: The Loozit® Study

As requested in your email dated 4th January 2011, the discussion section of this manuscript now acknowledges the lack of control group as a methodological limitation of this initial phase of the Loozit® Study. In designing this study, which has an active control group in phase 2, we considered it unethical to have a non-treatment control group given that most RCTs of pediatric obesity lifestyle interventions show that such interventions are superior to control conditions. Hence, we have declared in the manuscript that it is probable that the positive changes observed in this study are attributable to the intervention but that this cannot be stated definitively. These changes necessitated some other minor modifications to the discussion. All of these changes are highlighted in yellow in the manuscript that was uploaded with this letter. The changes previously submitted in the second round of peer-review are marked up in the manuscript but not highlighted. The Figure and Tables previously submitted remain unchanged.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Shrewsbury
On behalf of the Loozit® Study Team

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