Author's response to reviews

Title: Addressing risk factors for child abuse among high risk pregnant women: design of a Randomised Controlled Trial of the Nurse Family Partnership in Dutch preventive health care

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Amsterdam, October 12th 2011

Dear editor,

Please find enclosed the manuscript: “Addressing risk factors for child abuse among high risk pregnant women: design of a Randomised Controlled Trial of the Nurse Family Partnership in Dutch preventive health care”, by Mejdoubi et al., to be submitted as a study protocol to BioMed Central Public Health. All co-authors have seen and agree with the contents of the manuscript and there is no financial interest to report. This manuscript was written specifically for BioMed Central Public Health and has not been previously published or submitted for publication elsewhere.

In this manuscript, we report the design of a Randomized Controlled Trial to study the effect of VoorZorg among high risk pregnant women. The VoorZorg program in the Netherlands is a cultural adaption of the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) of David Olds. The NFP is an evidence based program in the US for prevention of child abuse. Our study is the first outside the US.

We believe that our findings could be of interest to the readers of BMC Public Health because the description of the translation and culturally adaption of a prevention program could be helpful for scientists on any field. Furthermore, this program is at the moment one of the few evidence-based interventions in the world for the primary prevention of child abuse with short-term as well as long-term effects.

This study could thus have a great interest and bring important light in the field of primary prevention of child abuse and we hope that the editorial board will agree on the interest of this study.

Yours sincerely,

Jamila Mejdoubi on behalf of the authors.

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