Author's response to reviews

Title: Development and evaluation of a structured programme for promoting physical activity among seniors with intellectual disabilities: a study protocol for a cluster randomized trial

Authors:

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

Please find enclosed the revised manuscript “The systematic development of a structured programme for promoting physical activity among seniors with intellectual disabilities” by M. van Schijndel-Speet, H.M. Evenhuis, P. van Empelen, R. van Wijck, and M.A. Echteld, in which the comments received on 18th April 2013 provided by dr. Jimmar Dizon are addressed.

1. This manuscript describes the development of the intervention study that is part of the Healthy Ageing with Intellectual Disabilities study, that also includes a large-scale epidemiological study on health. The Healthy Ageing study is externally funded by The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (nr 57000003), for 560,000 euro in total. The original document showing the approval of funding and a translation of the most relevant part of the document are uploaded in the tab “upload files”.

Ethical approval is received from the Medical Ethics Committee of the Erasmus University Centre Rotterdam (NL 29573.078.09). The original approval and a translation of the most relevant parts of the document are uploaded in the tab “upload files”.

The following manuscripts describing aspects of our intervention study are currently under review with other journals:

- Facilitators and barriers to physical activity as perceived by older adults with intellectual disabilities
- Measuring physical activity among people with intellectual disabilities and a low gait speed: applicability and validity of two monitors

2. In the Methods section is stated that written informed consent for participation was obtained from participants of their legal representatives, depending on their mental competence (page 13).

3. The trial is registered in the International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number Register (ISRCTN): ISRCTN82341588. The number is added at the end of the abstract.
4. The abstract is included in the manuscript file.

Kind regards,

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