Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Proactive Tobacco Treatment for Low Income Smokers: Study Protocol of a Randomized Controlled Trial

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
April 1, 2014

Natalie Pafitis  
Executive Editor  
*BMC Public Health*

Dear Dr. Pafitis:

On behalf of my co-authors, I am submitting the requested additions to our study protocol entitled “Proactive Tobacco Treatment for Low Income Smokers: Study Protocol of a Randomized Controlled Trial.”

1. **Ethical and Funding Approval Documentation**

*Before we can proceed with your submission, can you please forward copies of all ethical approval and funding approval for our records. These documents should be sent as email attachments to the following email address, BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com. Please DO NOT upload these documents as additional files in the submission system. If your documents are not in English, please could you provide translated versions of the relevant parts. These should be endorsed and signed by a contactable person at the institution. Please also include the original documents. Can you please confirm in your cover letter that you have forwarded the requested documentation to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.*

Yes, I have forwarded the requested documentation of ethical approval and funding approval to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

2. **Funding**

*A study is considered to be externally funded if the authors have been awarded a grant for the study by a major funding body (e.g. governmental funding/award from a charitable foundation). If a study has not received external funding, then the study protocol will be sent for peer-review with a member of our Editorial Board. If a study has received funding/assistance from a commercial organization, this should be clearly stated in the 'competing interests' section of your manuscript, and the study protocol will be sent for peer-review by a member of our Editorial Board. Can you please confirm whether your study protocol has undergone peer-review by the funding body.*

Yes, our study protocol has undergone peer-review by the funding body at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health.

3. **Study status**
The protocol must be for a study that is ongoing. An ‘ongoing’ study is defined as one where the investigators are still collecting, or analyzing data. Can you please confirm what stage your study is currently at.

The study is currently ongoing and is in the final stages of data collection.

4. Related Articles

Can you please clarify whether any publications containing the results of this study have already been published or submitted to any journal. If so, can you please provide a list of the related articles.

There are no manuscripts under submission at other journals based on this study protocol. The contents of this manuscript have not been previously published and the current manuscript is not being submitted elsewhere.

In addition, we would need you to address the following request below.

1.) Please add your Trial Registration Number at the end of your Abstract in the submission system and kindly provide the date of registration along with your Trial Registration Number.

We have added the Trial Registration Number and date of registration at the end of the Abstract. The registration number is NCT01123967 and the date of registration is May 12, 2010.

2.) Competing Interests

Please be advised that manuscripts must include a ‘Competing interests’ section. This should be placed after the Conclusions/Abbreviations. If there are none to declare, please include the statement “The authors declare that they have no competing interests.” Please consider the following questions and include an appropriate declaration of competing interests in your manuscript:

We have no competing interests and declare this statement after the Conclusions.

Sincerely,

Steven S. Fu, MD, MSCE
Director, Center for Chronic Disease Outcomes Research
Associate Professor, University of Minnesota Medical School