Author's response to reviews

Title: A randomized controlled trial of tai chi for long-term low back pain (TAI CHI): Study rationale, design, and methods.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
May 6, 2009

Liz Hoffman
Assistant Editor
BMC-series journals

Dear Dr. Hoffman,

Re: MS: 1080787280248627

Title: A randomized controlled trial of tai chi for long-term low back pain (TAI CHI): Study rationale, design, and methods.

Thank you for confirming your decision to publish our manuscript pending final revisions. As requested, the revisions have been made in both the submission form and in the main text. A point by point description of changes is attached.

Sincerely,

Amanda Hall
**Major revisions (We require the author to make these changes)**

Abstract - Abstracts must be structured into Background, Methods/Design, Discussion. Please remember to also update the Abstract details on the submission page.

- This has been changed in main text and on submission page.

Authors' contributions - please use the following format (please use initials to refer to each author's contribution): AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

- This has been updated in main text

Reference 11 - please provide full details for this reference. A page or article number is required for journals.

- Full details have now been provided

References - please cite all references in numerical order in the main text. References 34-36 are currently cited out of position.

- This has been corrected

**Minor revisions (We can make these changes on resubmission, although it will speed up publication of your manuscript if you do them while making the major changes above).**

Title page - please remove the word `Title¿ preceding the main heading.

- This has been updated in main text

Qualifications - Please remove the authors' qualifications (e.g. PhD / MD) from the manuscript and submissions system

- This has been changed in main text and on submission page

Affiliations - Each affiliation should be written in full, in the following format: department, institute, city, and country. This may mean repeating institutional addresses if the authors are from different departments within an institution. (See affiliation 5)

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Ethical approval statement - please move this to the Methods/design section.

- This has been changed in main text and on submission page
Introduction - please rename 'Background'.

- This has been changed in main text

Methods - please rename 'Methods/design'

- This has been changed in main text and on submission page

Authors' contributions - please use the following format (please use initials to refer to each author's contribution): AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

- This has been changed in main text

Tables, move to text - You have uploaded the tables as figure files. Please remove them from the submission system and include the tables within the text file of the manuscript following the references. The tables should not be embedded images or drawings and should be formatted from cells, not tabbed text. Please also move the table title to above the table and the legend to below the table, within the text.

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