Author's response to reviews

Title: Neck exercises, physical and cognitive behavioural-graded activity as a treatment for adult whiplash patients with chronic neck pain: Design of a randomised controlled trial

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr Timothy Shipley,

Thank you for your kind response. I hereby send the information to the points you made in your comments.

1. Experimental research that is reported in the manuscript must have been performed with the approval of an appropriate ethics committee. Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration (http://www.wma.net/e/policy/b3.htm), and any experimental research on animals must follow internationally recognized guidelines. A statement to this effect must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate.

The following has been added to the manuscript, ethical section:
The Regional Scientific Ethical Committee of Southern Denmark approved the study (S-20100069). The study conformed to The Declaration of Helsinki 2008 [63] by fulfilling all general ethical recommendations.

2. Informed consent must also be documented. Manuscripts may be rejected if the editorial office considers that the research has not been carried out within an ethical framework, e.g. if the severity of the experimental procedure is not justified by the value of the knowledge gained.

The following has been added to the manuscript, ethical section:
All subjects will receive information about the purpose and content of the project and give their oral and written consent to participate, with the possibility to drop out of the project at any time.

3. Please include a 'Competing interests' section between the Conclusions and Authors' contributions. If there are none to declare, please write 'The authors declare that they have no competing interests'.

The following has been added to the manuscript:
The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

The questions that are asked of authors are:
Financial competing interests:
- In the past five years have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future? Is such an organization financing this manuscript (including the article-processing charge)? If so, please specify. 
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  No
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- Do you have any other financial competing interests? If so, please specify.
No
Non-financial competing interests: are there any non-financial competing interests (political, personal, religious, academic, ideological, intellectual, commercial or any other) to declare in relation to this manuscript? If so, please specify.
No

4. Please include an Authors' contributions section before the Acknowledgements and Reference list.

The following has been added to the manuscript:

Authors’ contribution:
IRH drafted the manuscript.
IRH, BJK and KS participated in the design of the study.
All contributed to the design.
RC, IRH, BJK and KS participated in the power and sample size calculation and in describing the statistical analysis as well as the allocation and randomization procedure.
All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Added to Acknowledgement:

Suzanne Capell provided writing assistance and linguistic corrections.

5. The figure legends have been moved to the end of the manuscript.

I hope this is sufficient, and I hope that you will find the article suitable for publication. Otherwise please contact me for further information.

With best regards

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