Author's response to reviews

Title: Description and design considerations of a multidisciplinary cognitive-behavioural intervention for patients undergoing lumbar spinal fusion surgery

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors of BMC Muskuloskeletal Disorders.

Thank you for your patience with my revision of this manuscript, “Description and design considerations of a randomized clinical trial investigating the effect of a multidisciplinary cognitive-behavioural intervention for patients, undergoing lumbar spinal fusion surgery”.

The manuscript is now according to BMC guidelines for study protocols. I would like to add, that much attention is being given to the theory and rationale behind the complex rehabilitation intervention being investigated. This is in accordance with the requirements of the Medical Research Council (MRC) guidance “Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions” (2012).

Responses to your request:

1. Ethical and Funding Approval Documentation.
The study has been approved by the Ethics Committee of Central Denmark Region. Documents regarding ethical approval and external funding has been forwarded to BMC.SeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

2. Funding
The study is partly externally funded by governmental (Health Research Foundation of Central Denmark Region and The Danish Council for Strategic Research) and charitable foundations (Danish Rheumatism Association; Health Foundation). The study protocol has undergone peer-review in all funding bodies.

3. Study status
The inclusion of patients ended in June 2013, and the last patient underwent surgery in September 2013. The follow-up is 1 year, which will be completed in September 2014. Two publications are planned in the autumn 2014, one on clinical outcomes, and one on health economics. One publication is planned following the publication of this study protocol, containing results on postoperative pain, mobility during hospitalisation and length of stay. The manuscript for this has not yet been drafted.

4. The paper is not published or under consideration elsewhere, and neither have any publications containing the results of this study been submitted or published anywhere.

I hope very much, that you will find the manuscript to be of relevance of interest for the readers of the BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders.

Sincerely yours,

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