**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** DreamTel; Diabetes Risk Evaluation and Management Tele-monitoring Study

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Authors’s reply to reviewer’s report:
Thank you for reviewing this article and helping to improve its quality. The changes outlined below have been made.

Abstract:
Paragraph 2, sentence 3: This sentence and the ones that follow have been rewritten to more clearly to try to convey simply the time frame of the study.

Paper:
Page 3, paragraph 1: The authors should remove the capital I in the word “in” in the statement “in addition to the significant health benefits of blood pressure and lipid control”.
This correction has been made.

Page 3, paragraph 1: The authors should insert a comma after the reference to the ACCORD study. A comma should also be inserted after the phrase “also targeting normalization of A1c below 7.0%”.
Corrections made.

Page 3, paragraph 2: A comma should be inserted after the words “new diabetes induced microvascular target organ damage”. Farther on in the paragraph, the word “a” has been mistyped as “sa” when describing the driving time to Edmonton.
The first sentence of this paragraph has been changed as follows:
For those who develop diabetes, control of blood glucose is important to prevent new microvascular target organ damage. Blood pressure control prevents both micro and macrovascular damage and lipid control macrovascular changes.

Page 4, paragraph 2: The authors should insert the word “dialysis” after the word “new” in line 5 of the paragraph. Farther down in the same paragraph, the authors should insert the words “of diabetes” after the words “higher rates”. This is in line 21 of the paragraph.
Page 5, paragraph 1, line 3: The authors indicate that the recommendation for glycemic control is an A1c of < 7.0%. This should be changed to < 7.0 so as to be consistent with the reference made later in the same paragraph.
These changes have been made.

Page 5, paragraph 2, line 9: The authors do not need to capitalize the word “the”. The authors should also rewrite the entire sentence that currently reads as “evidence for caution in the way that diabetes intensification is achieved comes from the ACCORD study which targeting aggressive normalization of A1c in patients with longstanding diabetes and found an elevated mortality”. The changes below were made:

The ACCORD study which targeting aggressive normalization of A1c in patients with longstanding diabetes, found an elevated mortality in the intensive group which targeted normalization of blood glucose. The goal of diabetes intensification in this study is to reduce the risk for the complications of diabetes by controlling blood glucose safely.

Page 5, paragraph 3: The authors should insert the word “study” after the term STENO-2 in line 9 of the paragraph. The authors should also change the comma later in the same line to a period. The authors suggest that the glycemic target was 6.5% in both the active and control arms of the study. For the bulk of the trial, the glycemic target in the control arm was in fact 7.5%.

This section was changed as follows:
The glycaemic target in the intensive arm of the STENO-2 study was an A1c of 6.5%, compared to about 7.5% in the control arm. Despite lower blood glucose levels attained in the intensive treatment group, there were fewer major hypoglycemic complications (eg. impaired consciousness which required help from another person) in the intensive treatment compared to the control group (just under 1% vs. 2% per patient year respectively)47.

Page 8, paragraph 2, line 14: The authors should change the word “received” to “receive”.

Page 9, paragraph 1, line 6: The authors should change the word “the” to the word “each”. The authors should also remove the word “the” that comes just before the word “questionnaires” later in the same sentence as the questionnaire has not previously been referred to.

Page 9, paragraph 2, line 1: I am uncertain as to whether the word “denominated” is in fact the best term to be using to describe the type of data being collected. Denominated has been removed. Other changes made as suggested.

Page 9, paragraph 3, line 1: The authors refer the reader to Appendix B which describes the medication algorithm. The authors may wish to rename the appendices as in fact no previous reference to an appendix has been made in the manuscript.
Thank you, the appendices have been re-ordered.

Page 10, paragraph 2: The authors may wish to rewrite sentence number 4. The current sentence suggests that the currently existing provincial emergency health hotline was in fact developed by the homecare team and the study investigators. The authors may also wish to rewrite or remove the subsequent sentence. Thank you, this paragraph has been revised as suggested.

The initiation of insulin is often frightening for patients and a program of education and an algorithm for the introduction of insulin were developed. At all times, the primary care physician will be kept in the loop as part of a management model. After Home Care visits, reports on study letterhead will be faxed or mailed to the primary care physician. In addition, a system of graded alerts developed by the Home Care team including the use of the existing Provincial emergency Health Hotline and medical backup will be used in the study.

Page 10, paragraph 4, line 3: The authors should remove the apostrophe in the word “patients”.
Page 11, paragraph 2, line 1: The authors should insert the words “who are” after the term “designated RNs”.
Page 12, paragraph 3, line 2: The authors may wish to remove the words “Health Services” at the end of line 2.
Page 13, paragraph 4, line 4: This is the first reference made to Appendix A. In terms of the appendices themselves, there are currently two appendices labeled “Appendix A”.

These changes have been made. The Appendix has been changed to C.

On behalf of the authors, I would like to thank the reviewer for helping to make this a much better manuscript.
I hope that the manuscript is now suitable for publication.
Sheldon Tobe