Author's response to reviews

Title: Case conferences general practitioners and specialist teams to plan end of life care of people with end stage heart failure and lung disease: exploratory pilot study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
13 April 2014

Dr Stephen Barclay
Editor
BMC Palliative Care

Dear Dr Barclay,

Thank you for accepting this article for publication

We have addressed the issues you raised in your email:

Please kindly remove the revised manuscript with track changes from additional file section. Done

2. Please state in the Methods section whether written informed consent for participation in the study was obtained from participants or, where participants are children, a parent or guardian. Please confirm and clarify whether you have obtained written informed. Done see Page 9, last paragraph.

3. Please include Trial Registration Number and date of registration as last line of abstract. Done – see page 3.

The email states that our research appears to be a controlled clinical trial. This is a pilot, and has utilized before and after data for participating patients, derived from clinical records, in order to estimate a possible effect size. Hence it is not a true controlled trial. We have registered the pilot. When the full RCT trial proceeds we will register that prospectively.

We also took the opportunity to edit Tables 2 and three to provide a consistent presentation.

Thank you very much for accepting this submission for publication

Regards
Geoff Mitchell

For the authors