Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevention and treatment of intertrigo in large skin folds of adults: a systematic review

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thanks to you and the referees for the useful comments on our manuscript. Below you find our point-to-point reply to the comments made.
In our opinion there are no comments that necessitated changes to the manuscript, so we uploaded the same manuscript.
We hope this reply will be satisfactory and you can proceed with publishing the manuscript on BMC Nursing

Sincerely,

Patrick Mistiaen
POINT-TO-POINT REPLY

All reply is in blue and italic

EDITOR

- Ensure that you have adhered to the PRISMA guidelines for reporting systematic reviews
  http://www.prisma-statement.org/

  We checked the manuscript against the PRISMA-checklist. In our opinion we adhered to this,
  with the exception that review was not registered and has no review registration number.

- Ensure that your revised manuscript conforms to the journal style
  (http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/medicine_journals). It is important that your files are correctly
  formatted.

  We checked the format of the manuscript and additional files and as we far as we can see, we
  think the manuscript conforms the journal style.

REFEREE 1 (Reviewer: Robert Dellavalle)

- Excellent systematic review on the prevention and treatment of Intertrigo—was this a Cochrane
  Collaboration systematic review? Is this a co-publication of such a review?

  Thanks for the compliment. Our review is not a Cochrane-review or a co-publication of such
  review.

- Given the tremendous cost and regulatory effort for conducting RCTs there is little hope for more
  evidence of this type for this disease in the near future--still it is great to have such a high quality search
  and systematic summary of existing evidence on the record.

  We agree that not many RCTs on intertrigo are to be expected in the near future, because of its
  stigma as a ‘minor ailment’, but we do regret this very much.

REFEREE 2 (Reviewer: Luigi Naldi)

- This paper presents data on a carefully designed and well conducted study on interventions for intertrigo.

  Thanks for the compliment.

- I wonder whether some additional information could be provided on diagnostic criteria especially with
  respect to the exclusion of conditions such as psoriasis and tinea cruris.

  As stated in the exclusion criteria, we excluded studies on psoriasis, but did not exclude studies
  on tinea cruris. We excluded studies that specified studying psoriasis since this disease is quite
  different in physiopathology and is not typically (although it may happen) located in large skin
  folds. Studies on tinea cruris were not excluded since this ailment is typically located in the groin
  and is a fungal disease, that resembles very much like fungal infected intertrigo or could even be
  a progressed stage of intertrigo. So for the review we considered tinea curitis as a form of
  intertrigo in a large skinfold. Consequently, tinea cruris is not listed as an exclusion criterion in
  the manuscript.

  In our opinion the text of the manuscript is correct and we did not made any changes

- In addition, some stratification of data by risk factors would be useful (e.g., obesity).

  We agree this is a charming idea. However, the included studies generally lacked data about risk
  factors and certainly did not present subgroup analyses for different risk groups. This made it
  impossible for us even to think about stratifying results according to risk factor or about doing
  subgroup analyses in the review.