Author's response to reviews

Title: The Protocol for the Families First Edmonton Trial (FFE): A randomized community-based trial to compare four service integration approaches for families with low-income

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This manuscript describes the protocol for Families First Edmonton (FFE), a community-based, randomized, two-factor, single-blind, longitudinal effectiveness trial where low-income families (1168) were randomly assigned to receive either (1) Family Healthy Lifestyle plus Family Recreation service integration (Comprehensive), (2) Family Healthy Lifestyle service integration, (3) Family Recreation service integration, or (4) existing services.

The impetus for this health services research with low income settings was the desire of local policy makers and program designers to improve the use of existing services for low-income families. Twenty three community and government partners were engaged over the gestation of the protocol. As such, the results of this trial are expected to have a number of practice and policy implications for low-income families both locally and nationally.

No results from the trial have been published or submitted elsewhere.

The title has been altered to indicate that the manuscript is a protocol describing a trial.