Author's response to reviews

Title: Efficacy and Cost-effectiveness of an Outcall Program to Reduce Carer Burden and Depression among Carers of Cancer Patients [PROTECT]: rationale and design of a randomised controlled trial.

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Dear Hayley,

1. CONSORT

In accordance with BioMed Central editorial policies (http://www.biomedcentral.com/about/editorialpolicies#StandardsofReporting), could you please ensure your manuscript reporting adheres to CONSORT guidelines (http://www.consort-statement.org/) for reporting clinical trials. This is so your methodology can be fully evaluated and utilised. Can you please include a completed CONSORT checklist as an additional file when submitting your revised manuscript.

Please note our study conforms to the CONSORT guidelines.

Ethical and Funding Approval Documents and Study Protocol Checklist

Could you please respond to the following points below. Please forward your responses to these points in a separate email to hayley.henderson@biomedcentral.com at the same time as you upload your revised manuscript.

1. Ethical and Funding Approval

Thank you for confirming that you have obtained ethical approval and funding for your study. However, before we can proceed with your submission, can you please forward copies of all ethical approval and funding approval for our records.
Please find attached copies of the ethical and funding approvals.

2. Funding
Can you please confirm whether your study protocol has undergone peer-review by the funding body.

The study protocol was reviewed by three independent assessors and grant review panel (NHMRC, a Commonwealth Government funding body).

3. Ongoing
The protocol must be for a study that is ongoing. An ‘ongoing’ study is defined as one where the investigators are still collecting, or analyzing data. Can you please confirm what stage your study protocol is currently at.

The study commenced in August 2013 and is ongoing.

4. Related Articles
Can you please clarify whether any publications containing the results of this study have already been published or submitted to any journal. If so, can you please provide a list of the related articles.

N/A