Author's response to reviews

Title: Rationale and design of WEBCARE: A randomized, controlled, web-based behavioral intervention trial in cardioverter-defibrillator patients to reduce anxiety and device concerns and enhance quality of life

Authors:

Susanne S Pedersen (s.s.pedersen@uvt.nl)
Viola Spek (v.r.m.spek@uvt.nl)
Dominic Theuns (d.theuns@erasmusmc.nl)
Marco Alings (marco@alings.org)
Pepijn van der Voort (pepijn.vd.voort@catharina-ziekenhuis.nl)
Luc Jordaens (l.jordaens@erasmusmc.nl)
Johan Denollet (denollet@uvt.nl)
Krista van den Broek (C.C.L.T.vdnBroek@uvt.nl)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Doug Altman, MD  
Curt Furberg, MD  
Jeremy Grimshaw, MD  
Peter Rothwell, MD  
Editors-in-Chief, *Trials*

**Re.: MS 1686546387281237 – submission of revised manuscript**

Dear Editors-in-Chief of *Trials*,

Thank you for your e-mail, dated October 29, 2009, allowing us to resubmit the manuscript entitled *"Rationale and design of WEBCARE: A randomized, controlled, web-based behavioral intervention trial in cardioverter-defibrillator patients to reduce anxiety and device concerns and enhance quality of life"* to *Trials* under the category “Study protocol”.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the reviewer for his/her very valuable suggestion. Our response to the comment has been listed below, and adaptations to the manuscript have been indicated with green shading.

We hope that our manuscript now meets the high standards of your journal, and look forward to learning of your decision concerning our manuscript.

Yours sincerely,

Susanne S. Pedersen  
Professor of Cardiac Psychology
RESPONSE TO THE REVIEWER’S COMMENT:

Reviewer (Lawrence Friedman):

It is well-written and includes almost all of the key items. One area that should be expanded is a description of the “usual care” control. It is not clear what that will consist of. Once that is clarified, I recommend publication.

We thank the reviewer for this positive comment and for noting this omission. We have now added a sentence to the methods (pages 7-8), as follows:

“Patients randomized to the usual care arm will receive care as it is standardly offered to ICD patients in the three centers, comprised of an information booklet about ICD treatment, standard clinical follow-up visits, and home monitoring of the device (if applicable).”