Author's response to reviews

Title: Common definition for categories of clinical research: a prerequisite for a survey on regulatory requirements by the European Clinical Research Infrastructures Network (ECRIN)

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Please find enclosed a revised version of the paper “Common definition for categories of clinical research: a prerequisite for a survey on regulatory requirements by the European Clinical Research Infrastructures Network (ECRIN)” taking into account the final request regarding formatting and last corrections:
A section “methods” was added above the section titled “definition of categories of research and development of the survey”

- The additional files were removed

- A section titled "Tables" was added at the end of the manuscript.

- As suggested some last corrections were brought to the text to make it more precise:

  - page 4: section methods 5th line: we added the word “therefore”
  - page 4 section results second line: we specify that the experts are experts in the field of “clinical research”
  - page 4 section results, next to last line: we added “our classification was essential “to develop…”
  - page 7: line 11: we added “as no commonly accepted definitions of clinical research categories existed in Europe”, the first step…..
  - page 7: next to last line: we added the word “only”
  - page 8: drafting phase: we added the objective of the survey was to “analyse the regulatory situation and practices and” provide…..
  - page 9: second paragraph: we added that the first step was to find common categories of research “as basis for discussing the regulatory requirements” to which…
  - page 10: the third line was replaced by the following “Based on final discussion, the definition of categories were fine tuned and adapted to include national specificities”
  - page 10 section results and discussion, first line: the following “the entire spectrum of clinical research was divided into seven” major categories…..
  - page 11: last paragraph, first line: we added “In addition to our concept of seven categories” we advocate…..
  - page 14; second paragraph: we added the word “to” in the first sentence.

I remain at your disposal for any further information.

With very best regards,