Author's response to reviews

Title: Reasons for participating in RCTs: conditional altruism and considerations for self

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor

MS: 8347989362602227
Reasons for participating in RCTs: conditional altruism and considerations for self
Sharon K McCann, Marion K Campbell and Vikki A Entwistle

We thank the reviewer for their additional perspective on our paper and have attempted to address their remaining concern.

Reviewer's report
Reviewer: katie featherstone
Reviewer's report: This is a far clearer paper than the previous version and I think the authors make a good case for 'conditional altruism'.

Minor essential revisions-
My only reservation with this paper is the review of the literature. Whilst I understand that the authors wish to 'save' their 'full meta-ethnography of relevant papers' in a separate publication- merely stating this has been carried out and listing the papers included does not really help the reader. I would like them to add a paragraph outlining the key papers/findings/methods used that informed this study- this will then lead the reader into the analysis section and are then picked up again in the discussion. This can be used to highlight the tension between altruism and personal benefit.

As requested we have added a paragraph (highlighted in yellow in the text) explaining in more detail the process that was undertaken to conduct the meta-ethnography including the key papers, methods and overall findings.

We trust that this revision is acceptable and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Marion K Campbell, on behalf of all authors