Author’s response to reviews

Title: Development of a complex oral health care intervention after stroke: using a mixed methods pilot study to inform the design of a randomised controlled trial.

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Trials

Please find attached the manuscript submission entitled *Development of a complex oral health care intervention after stroke: using a mixed methods pilot study to inform the design of a randomised controlled trial*. Within this manuscript we report the development and implementation of a highly complex intervention across three dimensions of care with a view towards evaluating the effectiveness of this intervention within a randomised controlled trial design.

Funded by Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland, we adopted a pragmatic approach to patient recruitment, completion of the assessment tools and delivery of the intervention. Our report also provides an example of how the MRC framework for the evaluation of complex interventions can be effectively applied to highly complex interventions while accommodating clinically relevant issues. The findings support our development of the next phase of work as we move towards the evaluation of the effectiveness of this intervention within a randomised controlled trial design. I can confirm that the authors have no competing interests. I look forward to your response to this submission.

Sincerely

Marian Brady
Reader, Director – Stroke Research

On behalf of the project team:
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