Author's response to reviews

Title: Anger management for people with mild to moderate learning disabilities: Study protocol for a multi-centre 3 cluster randomized controlled trial of a manualized intervention delivered by day-service staff

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Version: 2 Date: 6 January 2011

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Anger management for people with mild to moderate learning disabilities: Study protocol for a multi-centre phase 3 cluster randomized controlled trial of a manualized intervention delivered by day-service staff

Please find attached the revised protocol paper having taken into account the reviewers comments.

The changes have been made using ‘track change’ so are easily identifiable but in summary:-

Point 1.
Added to page 4
A cluster randomized design, with one group per participating center, was adopted to avoid the contamination between arms that would result if intervention and control groups were recruited within the same centre.

Point 2.
Added to page 7
It consists of a list of 25 different situations that can evoke anger, each of which is rated on a four-point scale for the amount of anger that it would evoke. Scores on this measure have been shown to correlate with staff-reported levels of aggression [8].

Point 3.
This is a fair point and the words “phase 3” have been deleted from the title and the text.

Point 4.
This information was provided in Fig.1 but a note has been added to page 6.

After the 6-month follow-up the intervention will be delivered to the control group, followed by further post-intervention assessments (Fig. 1): these data will be used in secondary analysis that are not described here.

Yours faithfully

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