Author's response to reviews

Title: Web-based smoking cessation intervention that transitions from inpatient to outpatient: protocol for a randomized effectiveness trial

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Doug Altman, University of Oxford
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Jeremy Grimshaw, Ottawa Health Research Institute
Peter Rothwell, University of Oxford
Editors-in-Chief of Trials

RE: Resubmission of CHART Collaborative Manuscript: Web-based smoking cessation intervention that transitions from inpatient to outpatient: Protocol for a randomized effectiveness trial

Dear Sirs,

As the lead author on the above-referenced manuscript, I again request consideration for publication in Trials as part of the CHART collaborative group. We appreciate the Reviewer’s helpful comments and edits, and have addressed his comments as follows:

Reviewer Comment: The fact that 38% of Alabaman homes do not have access to the Internet might induce selection bias in the estimated effects. There "might be" higher proportion of smokers among the population without Internet access. I understand that nothing really can be done about this; however, a discussion in the limitation section will be helpful.
Response: A discussion of this selection bias has been added to the limitations section of the manuscript.

Reviewer Comment: Elaboration of the specific methods will be helpful for the readers. [how we will handle missing data]
Response: We, the CHART collaborative group, have since discussed this issue further since the first submission. A more detailed description of these methods has been added to the paper.

I and my co-authors look forward to your response regarding this resubmission. Please contact me if anything additional is needed or there are any questions.

Sincerely,

Kathleen F. Harrington, PHD, MPH
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