Author's response to reviews

Title: Behavioural activation-based guided self-help treatment administered through a smartphone application

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Cover letter

Point-by-point comments

Title: Behavioural activation-based guided self-help treatment administered through a smartphone application

Version: 2 Date: 17 February 2012

Reviewer: Simon Gilbody

Reviewer's report:

a. I think the authors need to describe their planned analysis in more detail. also, does the power calculation allow for anticipated loss to follow up?

Comment: An analysis part is now added to the manuscript. Also, a power calculation for anticipated loss is added.

b. The longer-term follow up will not be informative, since this is a crossover trial. Could the authors comment on this?

Comment: While the crossover design will prohibit conclusions regarding specific long-term effects, the long term effects of the new treatment format (smartphones) is not yet investigated, making the follow-up informative in the case both treatments (sharing the format) are ineffective. Moreover switching treatment will be optional and we will be able to investigate subgroups that only complete one the treatments.