Author's response to reviews

Title: Mindfulness-based intervention for teenagers with cancer: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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February 26th, 2013

Doug Altman, Editor-in-chief
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M. Altman, M. Vickers,

Please find enclosed revisions for the manuscript entitled: Mindfulness-based intervention for teenagers with cancer: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial, which I am submitting for exclusive consideration of publication as an article in Trials.

This revised version addresses the requested formatting changes. Thus, the title has been changed to conform to the journal’s style for study protocol articles. The study protocol has also been formatted as outlined in the provided instructions for authors.

Additionally, comments from M. Vickers have been addressed in the revised manuscript. Namely:

1. A precise description of randomization procedures has been included in the manuscript, in accordance with the CONSORT statement.
2. A justification of the chosen sample size has been added, and statements regarding the use of the Wilcoxon test in the calculation of effect sizes have been deleted and replaced by the appropriate analyses.
3. Pilot study endpoints have been added, addressing how data will be used to design a subsequent larger trial and how feasibility will be assessed. Accordingly, sample size has been deleted from the limitations.
4. The statistical analysis plan has been made explicit and planned analyses were modified to include the use of 3 mixed ANVOCAs with Bonferroni corrections instead of the initially planned analyses.

All modifications are indicated in the submitted manuscript with “track changes”.

I thank you very much for your consideration of my work.
Please address all correspondence concerning this manuscript to me and feel free to correspond with me by e-mail at catherine.malboeuf-hurtubise@umontreal.ca

Sincerely,

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