Author's response to reviews

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

Authors:

Catherine Malboeuf-Hurtubise (catherine.malboeuf-hurtubise@umontreal.ca)
Marie Achille (marie.achille@umontreal.ca)
Serge Sultan (serge.sultan@umontreal.ca)
Majorie Vadnais (majorie.vadnais.hsj@ssss.gouv.qc.ca)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Catherine Malboeuf-Hurtubise, B.Sc., B.A.
Université de Montréal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
March 5th, 2013

Doug Altman, Editor-in-chief
Andrew Vickers, Associate Editor
Trials, c/o BioMed Central
236 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8HB
United Kingdom

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.

Comments from M. Vickers have been addressed in the revised manuscript. Namely:

1. The justification for our sample size calculation has been included in the “Participants” section of the article. Please note that in order to obtain a statistical power of 80% for an alpha level of 0.05, we should include a total of 128 participants in our sample. However, given the pilot nature of this study and the targeted population (ie. teenagers with cancer), this estimate sample size is not realistic nor feasible. Hence, we have based our sample size calculations on previous literature of mindfulness interventions with adolescents. We have also taken into account a 20-30% attrition rate, based on the literature in this field.

2. A precise description of randomization procedures to ensure allocation concealment has been included.

All modifications are highlighted in the submitted manuscript.

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,

Catherine Malboeuf-Hurtubise, B. Sc., B.A.
Ph.D. candidate in clinical psychology
Health Psychology Laboratory, Université de Montréal