Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Acupuncture for lateral epicondylitis (tennis elbow): study protocol for a randomized, practitioner-assessor blinded, controlled pilot clinical trial

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Editor's requests

1) Please tell the authors that randomization is not described in sufficient detail to ensure allocation concealment. They could look up the Wikipedia entry for randomized controlled trials or look up the SPIRIT guidelines.

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-> Thank you for your helpful comments.

We added the description of allocation concealment as your indication; The allocation will be concealed in sequentially numbered, opaque, sealed envelopes and the random allocation envelopes will be opened only after the participants is satisfied all selection criteria and complete baseline assessments. The participants and diagnostician will get to know the allocated group but the practitioners, outcome assessors and data analysts will not know.