Author's response to reviews

Title: Evaluation of effect of low-level laser therapy on adolescents with temporomandibular disorder: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

Authors:

Camila HL Godoy (cami_godoy@outlook.com)
Paula FC Silva (paulafernanda84@yahoo.com.br)
Deise S Araujo (deise.fisio@ymail.com)
Lara J Motta (larajmotta@terra.com.br)
Daniela A Bisotto-Gonzalez (dani.atm@uninove.br)
Fabiano Politti (politti@uninove.br)
Raquel A Mesquita-Ferrari (raquel.mesquita@gmail.com)
Kristianne PS Fernandes (krisporta@gmail.com)
Regiane A Carvalho (regianealbertini@uninove.br)
Sandra K Bussadori (sandra.skb@gmail.com)

Version: 4 Date: 6 July 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of effect of low-level laser therapy on adolescents with temporomandibular disorder

Version: 3 Date: 5 June 2013

Reviewer: Kelli Allen

Reviewer's report:

1. Include the sample size in the abstract. The sample size was included in the abstract as suggested.

2. It would be helpful to include some general information about the impact / prevalence of TJD among adolescents, since this is the specific target patient group.

3. Chart 1 includes a line for those with TMD absent and indicate s they will have "follow-up." Does this mean they will have follow-up assessments or follow-up clinical care apart from the study. If the former, a rationale and description needs to be included in the manuscript. As they don’t have TMD, this group will not be treated. The data obteined in this group will be used as parameter for comparison.

4. It would be helpful to include a sub-heading for Measures. We didn’t understand where we should add this sub-heading.

5. The section on Evaluation of mandibular ROM states when the procedures will be carried out, as does the section for evaluation of pain. Are the same time points used for other measures described? We revised the procedures section and the time points used for measures was added in the text.

6. It is not necessary to include the DIMAM printout, since these data are included in the text. We removed the DIMAM printout as suggested.

7. In the Statistical section, clarify the comparisons – e.g., are the statics comparing across groups? Pre-post? In general the analysis plan could be a bit better described. The statistical analysis section was rewritten.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests