Author’s response to reviews

Title: A nurse and peer led support program to assist women in gynaecological oncology receiving curative radiotherapy, the PeNTAGOn study (Peer and Nurse support Trial to Assist women in Gynaecological Oncology): protocol for a randomised controlled trial.

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Trials: Study protocol

Title: A nurse and peer led support program to assist women in gynaecological oncology, the PeNTAGOn study (Peer and Nurse support Trial to Assist women in Gynaecological Oncology): protocol for a randomised controlled trial.

Response to reviewer’s second report by Rolf Wahlstrom

Version: 3 Date: 27 December 2012

04/01/2013

Dear Editor:

We once again thank the reviewer for his second assessment of the PeNTAGOn study protocol revised manuscript, and note that the paper has no major or minor revisions.

Please see below our responses to the discretionary and minor corrections which were identified:

The title has been modified to fit Trials Protocol convention and now includes “protocol for a randomised controlled trial” after the main title.

Discretionary revisions:

1. Abstract: one sentence starts with a number (“306 participants will be randomized…”). This is not in accordance with common writing standards. Change to “Three-hundred and six…” or revise the sentence.

   Sentence has been revised to commence with “Three-hundred and six…”.

2. Table 1: The expressions “CaTS-before” and “CaTS-after” do not appear in the main text. As these are not the official names of the tests, I recommend that the suffices “-before” and “-after” are deleted. It is anyway clear from the presentation that this test is performed before and after the radiotherapy, as are all other tests.

   Removed “-before” and “-after” suffices from Table 1.

Minor revisions:

1. According to the journal’s instructions, the title of books and reports should be in italics and plain text (not bold): Ref #8, 17, 18, 19, 60, 69.

   Presentation has been modified as per journal instructions for references #8, 17, 18, 19, 60 (ref #61 in updated manuscript) and 69 (ref #70 in updated manuscript).
2. Is there an author for ref #50?
Reference #50 does not have authors. The LENT / SOMA scale was developed through a collaborative study from the RTOG and EORTC groups. A second reference has been added, an editorial discussing the LENT / SOMA scale by those involved in its production (ref #51 in updated manuscript).

3. Add full year, volume and page for ref #61: 2012, 21(10): 1107-1112. We thank the reviewer for identifying this error and providing the corrected details. These have been added to the reference (#62 in updated manuscript).

4. Correct page numbers in ref #62. Page number for ref #62 (#63 in updated manuscript) has been corrected.

A final review of the manuscript references also revealed discrepancies in ref #1, 5, 6, 10, 25, 31, 33 (final page number added), #7 (incorrect year of publication).

We thank the reviewer once again for his comments.

Kind regards,

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