Author's response to reviews

Title: The process of developing and implementing a telephone-based peer support program for postpartum depression: evidence from two randomized controlled trials and a pilot randomized controlled trial

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Doug Altman, Curt Furberg, Jeremy Grimshaw
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Dear Editors-in-Chief,

Re: Revised Manuscript Submission

Thank you for forwarding the reviewer’s comments and for considering my manuscript: “The process of developing and implementing a telephone-based peer support program for postpartum depression: evidence from two randomized controlled trials and a pilot randomized controlled trial,” for publication in Trials. Changes in the manuscript based on the reviewer’s comments are outlined as follows:

1. I have revised the title from ‘lessons learned from several randomized controlled trials’ to ‘evidence from two randomized controlled trials and one pilot randomized controlled trial’.

2. I have added details to the manuscript on p.5 and p.14 to show that the peer support program model is based on experience and lessons learned from a postpartum depression peer support trial, a pilot trial, and a previous breastfeeding peer support trial – not just one randomized controlled trial. I have also stated that the postpartum depression peer support trial is used to demonstrate the suggested steps.

3. I have edited the abstract to reflect these changes in the manuscript. I have also moved the results that were discussed (i.e., telephone-based peer support can be effective in preventing postpartum depression) to the background and deleted the sentence that the development and implementation of the peer support program was feasible and satisfactory to mothers. The results now reflect what is discussed in the manuscript and not the outcomes of the trial.

4. I indicated that the peer volunteers were not compensated on p.11.

5. As stated, I revised the title from ‘lessons learned’ to ‘evidence’ from a postpartum depression peer support trial, a pilot trial, and a previous breastfeeding peer support trial. The 4-phase, 12-step approach outlined in the manuscript is based on these previous research experiences and lessons learned.

Thank you for allowing me to make these changes and for considering my manuscript for publication.

Sincerely,
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