Author’s response to reviews

Title: The (cost-) effectiveness of exergaming in people living with dementia and their informal caregivers: protocol for a randomized controlled trial

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Editorial point 1: Please, rename the section Methods/Design in the abstract to Methods.

Response to editorial point 1: We have renamed this section to Methods (Abstract, line 59, page 3).

Editorial point 2: Please, cite the appendices in text and remove the consent forms.

Response to editorial point 2: The appendices 1-11 (including the consent forms) were all appendices belonging to the SPIRIT checklist. Because we have also removed the SPIRIT checklist (see editorial point 6), we have also removed these appendices.
Editorial point 3: Confirm that all instruments are used as published or provide copies of those modified.

Response to editorial point 3: We hereby confirm that all instruments are used as published.

Editorial point 4: In the 'Funding' statement, please declare the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Response to editorial point 4: We have declared the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript (Funding, lines 650-652 and 657-659, page 29).

Editorial point 5: Please, include in the Ethics statement that consent for participants with dementia will also be obtained from caregiver/legal representative.

Response to editorial point 5: We have included in the Ethics statement that consent for participants with dementia will also be obtained from caregiver/legal representative (Ethics approval and consent to participate, lines 679-682, page 30).

Editorial point 6: Please, remove the SPIRIT checklist from the text as it will not be published.

Response to editorial point 6: We have removed the referral to the SPIRIT checklist as an additional file from the text (Methods, Study design and setting, lines 173-174, page 8).

Editorial point 7: We would also like to ask for you to provide more justification for the contributions of CS and JW, as currently they do not automatically qualify for authorship. Providing training and/or the exergaming equipment with a discount alone, does not usually justify authorship. Each author is expected to have made substantial contributions to the conception OR design of the work; OR the acquisition, analysis, OR interpretation of data; OR the creation of new software used in the work; OR have drafted the work or substantively revised it

AND to have approved the submitted version (and any substantially modified version that involves the author's contribution to the study);

AND to have agreed both to be personally accountable for the author's own contributions and to ensure that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work, even ones in which the author was not personally involved, are appropriately investigated, resolved, and the resolution documented in the literature.
Anyone listed as an author must be included in this section. If you choose to change your author list you will need to fill out a change in authorship form and send it by email to the Editorial office to be approved by the Editor. The form can be found here: https://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished/editorial-policies#authorship.

Response to editorial point 7: Both CS and JW have contributed to the design of the study, as they are also members of the project group (Author’s contributions, lines 662-663, page 29), and have approved the submitted version of the manuscript (Author’s contributions, lines 672-676, page 29). All authors have agreed to be personally accountable for the author’s own contributions and to ensure that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work, even ones in which the author was not personally involved, are appropriately investigated, resolved, and the resolution documented in the literature. We have described their contributions accordingly in the manuscript (Author’s contributions, lines 673-676, page 30).