Author’s response to reviews

Title: Guided Self-rehabilitation Contract vs conventional therapy in chronic stroke-induced hemiparesis: NEURORESTORE, a multicenter randomized controlled trial

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Author’s response to reviews:

Re: ID NURL-D-18-00707R3

Dear Dr. Minien,

We thank you for your attention to our last version of the manuscript.

As required, a single clean version of the revised document has been uploaded.

We hope that our manuscript now meets the requirements for publication in BMC Neurology. If we can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact us.

We very much look forward to receiving your response.
Dear Mrs Pradines,

Your manuscript “Guided Self-rehabilitation Contract vs conventional therapy in chronic stroke-induced hemiparesis: NEURORESTORE, a multicenter randomized controlled trial” (NURL-D-18-00707R3) has been assessed by our reviewers. Based on these reports, and the assessment of the handling Editor, I am pleased to inform you that it is potentially acceptable for publication in BMC Neurology, once you have carried out some essential revisions.

Their reports, together with any other comments, are below. Please also take a moment to check our website at https://clicktime.symantec.com/3MYApn37mqfe1Fymhs6kZh36H2?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.editorialmanager.com%2Fnurl%2F for any additional comments that were saved as attachments.

Please note that as BMC Neurology has a policy of open peer review, you will be able to see the names of the reviewers.

Once you have made the necessary corrections, please submit a revised manuscript online at: https://clicktime.symantec.com/3MYApn37mqfe1Fymhs6kZh36H2?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.editorialmanager.com%2Fnurl%2F

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We request that a point-by-point response letter accompanies your revised manuscript. This letter must provide a detailed response to each reviewer/editorial point raised, describing what amendments have been made to the manuscript text and where these can be found (e.g. Methods section, line 12, page 5). If you disagree with any comments raised, please provide a detailed rebuttal to help explain and justify your decision.

Please also ensure that your revised manuscript conforms to the journal style, which can be found at the Submission Guidelines on the journal homepage.

A decision will be made once we have received your revised manuscript, which we expect by 28 Jan 2019.

Please note that you will not be able to add, remove, or change the order of authors once the editor has accepted your manuscript for publication. Any proposed changes to the authorship must be requested during peer-review, and adhere to our criteria for authorship as outlined in

Kind regards,
BioMed Central's policies. To request a change in authorship, please download the 'Request for change in authorship form' which can be found here -

Please note that incomplete forms will be rejected. Your request will be taken into consideration by the editor, and you will be advised whether any changes will be permitted. Please be aware that we may investigate, or ask your institute to investigate, any unauthorized attempts to change authorship or discrepancies in authorship between the submitted and revised versions of your manuscript.

We look forward to receiving your revised manuscript and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

Stephanie Minien

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Senior Assistant Editor Comments:

1. Title Page:
   a. Please remove the manuscript descriptors (summary of numbers of pages, figures, and tables and abstract and main text word count).

   Response: The manuscript descriptors have been removed accordingly.

   b. Please remove the Financial Disclosure/Conflict of Interest statement from the title page.

   Response: The Financial Disclosure/Conflict of Interest statement has been removed from the title page.

2. Table 2:

   We note that table 2 is simply a box. Please note that we do not publish information presented in boxes, so we kindly ask that you format this information as a table, or you incorporate this
information in the main manuscript. If you choose the latter, please update the table citations in the manuscript text, accordingly.

Response: The information included in Table 2 is now incorporated in the main manuscript. The table citations in the text have been modified accordingly.

3. Authors’ Contributions:

We note that a number of initials appear in the contributions that do not match any of the listed authors (AY, PD, PM, FB, PG). Please can you provide an explanation for this? Please ensure that only the contributions of listed authors appear in this section. The contributions of anyone who does not qualify for authorship can be mentioned in the acknowledgements.

Response: AY (Alain Yelnik), PD (Patrick Dehail), PM (Philippe Marque), FB (François Boyer), PG (Pascal Giraud) are all authors of the paper as members of the Neurorestore Study Group, which is now specifically indicated in a separate paragraph before the Author’s contributions paragraph (instead of the acknowledgements paragraph where this was stated before).

4. Consent to Participate:

Thank you for stating that “Each patient or their legal guardian has provided a signed, informed consent to participate to the study.” We kindly ask that you please provide further information regarding your consent protocols. Specifically, we ask that you include the criteria determining whether consent could be obtained directly from the patient, or if proxy-consent was necessary. Please also confirm that that these criteria were approved by the ethics committee. Please add this information to the Ethics and consent to participate section.

Response: Written consent to participate in the protocol was always signed by the patient. This information is now included in the “Ethical approval and trial registration” paragraph and adjusted accordingly in the Inclusion Criteria.

5. Acknowledgements:

Authors should obtain permission to acknowledge from all those mentioned in the Acknowledgements section. If no acknowledgements are necessary then please state 'None'. Please do not include contact information in this section.

Response: No name now appears in the Acknowledgements section. Contact information is now absent from this section.

6. File Inventory:
Please remove the cover letter, response letter to the editor and completed SPIRIT checklist from the File Inventory as they are no longer required at this stage in the editorial process.

Response: These three documents will be removed from the File Inventory during the submission process of this revision.