Author’s response to reviews

Title: Influence of different rehabilitative aerobic exercise programs on (anti-) inflammatory immune signalling, cognitive and functional capacity in persons with MS – Study protocol of a randomized controlled trial

Authors:

Niklas Joisten (n.joisten@dshs-koeln.de)
Annette Rademacher (arademacher93@gmail.com)
Wilhelm Bloch (w.bloch@dshs-koeln.de)
Alexander Schenk (a.schenk@dshs-koeln.de)
Max Oberste (m.oberste@dshs-koeln.de)
Ulrik Dalgas (dalgas@sport.au.dk)
Dawn Langdon (d.langdon@rhul.ac.uk)
Daniel Caminada (daniel.caminada@risch.ch)
Mette-Triin Purde (mette.purde@gmail.com)
Roman Gonzenbach (Roman.Gonzenbach@kliniken-valens.ch)
Jan Kool (Jan.Kool@kliniken-valens.ch)
Philipp Zimmer (p.zimmer@dshs-koeln.de)
Jens Bansi (Jens.Bansi@kliniken-valens.ch)

Version: 1 Date: 26 Feb 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor, Dear Reviewers,

Thank you for your constructive and helpful feedback. In the following you will find the point-by-point response to the revisions with appropriate page and line details for applied changes:

1. We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published
works, in particular:
->Please find the particular textual changes stated below. Thank you for your important note concerning existing overlaps!
We re-phrased all mentioned sections and minimised the overlaps.

"Differences between persons with right or left cerebral vascular accident on the assessment of motor and process skills" https://doi.org/10.1016/S0003-9993(95)80124-3
Overlap exists in lines 230-237.
->We re-phrased the description of the AMPS that is reported in the lines mentioned above. (page 11, lines 236-246)

Overlap exists in lines 282-289, 294-303.
->We re-phrased the overlaps in sample size calculation and statistics. (page 13, lines 285-294 and lines 297-306, respectively)

"Recommendations for a Brief International Cognitive Assessment for Multiple Sclerosis (BICAMS)"https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1352458511431076
Overlap exists in lines 213-222
->The existing overlap describing the BICAMS was re-phrased. (pages 9 and 10, lines 209-234)

Clinical Protocol template for Investigator initiated trials (IIT)
Overlap exists in the exclusion column of table 1.
->Due to ethical standards, we provided extended exclusion criteria for clinical trials. We re-phrased the existing overlap and condensed the exclusion column of table 1. (page 7, line 146)

2. Please include in the title page the email addresses of all authors.
->We added the email addresses of all authors to the title page. (page 1, lines 10-19)

3. Please provide figure titles and legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.
->We moved the figure titles from the main text to the “Figure Legends” after the References. (page 19, lines 516-531)

4. Please rename your Methods heading to 'Methods/design'.
->We renamed the 'Methods' to 'Methods/design'. (page 5, line 114)

5. Please include a statement in your Funding section describing the role of the funding body in the design of the study, the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.
->We included a statement in the Funding section that describes the role of each funding body in the study. (pages 15 and 16, lines 366-371)

6. The specific individual contributions of ALL authors to the manuscript should be specified in the Authors’ Contributions section. Guidance and criteria for authorship can be found here:
http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship
Currently, the authors DC and MP are missing.
->We added the contributions of DC and MP in the Author’s Contributions section. (page 16, lines 373-379)

7. Please remove the funding, ethical documents and peer review document from the end of your manuscript as they cannot be published.
->The funding, ethical and peer review documents were removed from the revised submission.

8. Please ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the main text (this does not include the declarations). Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication. Currently, figure 2 is not cited.
->We added a sentence in the section “secondary outcomes” that cited figure 2. (page 9, lines 190 and 191)

9. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.
->We uploaded the revised manuscript as a clean version without any tracked changes or the like. Both Figures remain uploaded as separate files.