Author’s response to reviews

Title: Cord Pilot Trial, comparing alternative policies for timing of cord clamping before 32 weeks gestation: follow-up for women up to one year

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

RE: Resubmission `Cord Pilot Trial, comparing alternative policies for timing of cord clamping before 32 weeks gestation: follow-up for women up to one year’

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the editor comments on our revised manuscript. We have responded to the editor comments below and revised the manuscript. We would therefore like to resubmit our paper for consideration by BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth.
Please let me know if you require anything further.

Yours faithfully,

Lucy Bradshaw

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Editor comments and response

1. Thank you for providing an ethics and consent statement. Please clarify when written consent was obtained and when oral assent was obtained. Please also clarify why additional oral assent was needed, and whether the consent procedures were approved by the Ethics committee.

- We have added a paragraph to the methods section (page 6) to give more information on the consent process for the Cord Pilot Trial. We have included references to the Cord protocol paper publication (Pushpa-Rajah et al., 2014) and qualitative study exploring the women’s views of the two consent pathways (Sawyer et al., 2017) in this paragraph where more information is provided about the consent process. The consent procedures were approved by the Ethics committee.

2. We note that the corresponding author included in the submission system is different then the corresponding author listed on the title page, please clarify which other is the corresponding author, by including one name in both sections.
- The corresponding author on the title page has been updated.

3. Please note that the individual contributions of each of the authors included on the title page should be specified in the Authors contributions section. If there has been any changes to the list of authors, please let us know, as we may request a change of authorship form.

- Further details have been added on the contributions of each author in the Author contributions section.

4. Please provide a List of abbreviations after the Conclusions section. If abbreviations are used in the text, they should be defined in the text at first use and included in this list.

- We have added a list of abbreviations after the conclusions section.

5. Please provide a section after References where you provide the figure legends for your figure files. For each figure, the following information should be provided:

- Figure number

- Short title of figure in sentence case (required)

- Detailed legend (optional)

- We have added this information after the reference section.

6. Please ensure that when you upload your revised submission that it is in the final form for publication. Please remove any tracked changes, colored text, or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.

- We have removed the tracked changes from the document and uploaded a clean version of the manuscript.