Author's response to reviews

Title: Self-monitoring and reminder text messages to increase physical activity in colorectal cancer survivors (Smart Pace): a pilot randomized controlled trial

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We would like to thank the editor for considering our manuscript, “Self-monitoring and reminder text messages to increase physical activity in colorectal cancer survivors (Smart Pace): a pilot randomized controlled trial,” potentially acceptable in BMC Cancer. We have carried out the essential revisions as follows:
1. In the section 'Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate', please state whether the informed consent obtained was written or verbal. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure.

RESPONSE: Consent was obtained electronically. We have specified this on line 124.

2. Please ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the text. Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication.

RESPONSE: This has been done.

3. Please consider the list of authors as it currently stands with reference to our guidelines regarding qualification for authorship (http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship). Currently, the contributions of authors YF, CM & JAM do not automatically qualify them for authorship. In the section “Authors’ contributions”, please provide further clarifications on their contributions, and see our guidelines for authorship below. An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. Authors are expected to fulfil the criteria below (adapted from McNutt et al., Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Feb 2018, 201715374; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1715374115; licensed under CC BY 4.0): 1) 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. Acquisition of funding, collection of data or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not usually justify authorship. If these guidelines are not met, we would request the following change of authorship form be filled out and sent to our editorial office - https://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship
RESPONSE: We have considered the author list, and all authors meet the criteria for authorship. YF, CM, and JAM all made substantive intellectual contributions and revisions to the manuscript. We noted this in our author contribution section on line 346-7 as follows: critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content (all authors).

4. Thank you for providing a response to the reviewers/Cover Letter. As these documents are no longer required at this stage of the publication process, please remove them from your submission’s supplementary files.

RESPONSE: These files have been removed.

5. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, 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.

RESPONSE: This has been done.