Author’s response to reviews

Title: Diagnostic Test Accuracy of Diabetic Retinopathy Screening by Physician Graders Using a Hand-held Non-Mydriatic Retinal Camera at a Tertiary Level Medical Clinic

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BMC-Ophthalmology
Editorial Office.

14th March 2019.

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for the comments.

We have provided the point by point answers below indicating the line and page numbers of the manuscript corrections where relevant.

Yours sincerely,

Corresponding author,

MMPN Piyasena.
Replies -

1. Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your manuscript. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.

We obtained written informed consent all the participants. This study was approved by the Ethics Review Committees of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine - UK and the National Eye Hospital of Colombo Sri Lanka.

[Line no 189-191, 200, 217-218]

2. Your study falls within the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)'s definition of a clinical trial: any research study that prospectively assigns human subjects to one or more health related interventions to evaluate the effects on health or biological outcomes. As such, Biomed Central requires that a Trial Registration Number is provided in order for the manuscript to be published.

Once you know your trial registration number, please submit a revised version of your manuscript with the number and date of registration included in the abstract.

The last section of the abstract should be Trial Registration: listing the trial registry and the unique identifying number, e.g. Trial registration: Current Controlled Trials ISRCTN73824458, as well as the date of registration. Please note that there should be no space between the letters and numbers of the trial registration number. If registration took place after the first participant was enrolled, please state also “Retrospectively registered” at the end of this section.

We have obtained the trial registration number and stated this in the manuscript.

Number - ISRCTN47559703

[Line no - 111]

3. Thank you for providing a statement in the Consent for publication section. However, please note that Consent for publication refers to consent for the publication of identifying images or other personal or clinical details of participants that compromise anonymity. Seeing as this is not applicable to your manuscript please state “Not Applicable” in this section.

This statement has been revised as suggested.

[Line no 582]
4. In the section 'Funding', please also describe 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 and coordinating bodies had no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis and interpretation of the data and manuscript preparation.

[Line no - 588-589]

5. 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 most of authors 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.

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.

All authors were involved in conception, designing, acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data. All authors were involved in manuscript preparation and revisions. All authors agreed to be accountable for their contributions.

[Line no - 590-598]

6. Please provide a list of all the abbreviations used in the manuscript. This list should be placed just before the Declarations section. All abbreviations should still be defined in the text at first use.

List of abbreviations provided in the revised manuscript.

[Line no 549 - 565]
7. 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.

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.

For the 'Availability of data and materials' section, please provide information about where the data supporting your findings can be found.

Already stated in the manuscript.

[Line no - 583-584]

Declarations
- Ethics approval and consent to participate
- Consent to publish
- Availability of data and materials
- Competing interests
- Funding
- Authors' Contributions
- Acknowledgements

Already stated in the manuscript.

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[End of Replies]