Author's response to reviews

Title: Evaluating the efficacy of a web-based self-help intervention with and without chat counseling in reducing the cocaine use of problematic cocaine users: the study protocol of a pragmatic three-arm randomized controlled trial

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Author's covering letter for initial submission

Title: Evaluating the efficacy of a web-based self-help intervention with and without chat counseling in reducing the cocaine use of problematic cocaine users: the study protocol of a pragmatic three-arm randomized controlled trial

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Manuscript Submission

Evaluating the efficacy of a web-based self-help intervention with and without chat counseling in reducing the cocaine use of problematic cocaine users: the study protocol of a pragmatic three-arm randomized controlled trial

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Dear Editors,

Please find attached in the online submission system our file containing the abstract, body, tables, and figures of the above-mentioned manuscript, which we would like to submit for publication as a study protocol article in the journal BMC Psychiatry.

We are convinced that the BMC Psychiatry - as the leading journal for open access study protocol publications in this research field - provides the best platform to inform research communities, and practice about the first study that will investigate the efficacy of web-based self-help with and without chat counseling for the reduction of cocaine use in problematic cocaine users in a three-arm randomised controlled trial.

The material described in the manuscript has not been published in whole or in part elsewhere and the paper is not currently being considered for publication elsewhere. All authors have been personally and actively involved in substantive work leading to the manuscript, and will hold themselves jointly and individually responsible for its content. All relevant ethical safeguards are met in relation to participant protection, including review by an appropriate ethical review committee and the provision of online-informed participant consent. The study is funded by the highly competitive Swiss National Science Foundation the trial is registered at Current Controlled Trials and is traceable as ISRCTN12205466.

We would appreciate your consideration very much and we look forward to your evaluation.

Kind regards,

Michael P. Schaub

To the

BMC Psychiatry Editors

March 27, 2015