Author’s response to reviews

Title: Protocol for a randomized controlled dismantling study of an Internet-based intervention for depressive symptoms: Exploring the contribution of behavioral activation and positive psychotherapy strategies.

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Version: 1 Date: 14 Mar 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

We appreciate very much your encouraging answer. We have submitted the reviewed version of the paper entitled “Protocol for a randomized controlled dismantling study of an Internet-based intervention for depressive symptoms: Exploring the contribution of behavioral activation and positive psychotherapy strategies”, to be considered for publication in BMC Psychiatry, following all your suggestions. We have tried to answer all the recommendations stated by your revision.
1) Thank you for including the date of trial registration with the Trial registration number in the abstract. If the date of registration is after the date that the first participant was recruited, please also state ‘retrospectively registered’.

Regarding this issue, the date of registration was before the date that the first participant was recruited.

2) Please integrate the study status information within the Methods Section of the manuscript.

Thank you very much for your recommendation. We included the study status information within the Methods Section of the manuscript: At his moment the study is ongoing and we are in the participants recruitment phase.

Page 6, Lines 151-152

3) Please provide the ethical approval number obtained from the Ethics Committee of Universitat Jaume I, and append this to the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section of the Declarations.

Thank you for your recommendation to add the ethical approval number obtained from the Ethics Committee of Universitat Jaume I. We included it in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section of the Declarations and in the Ethics section of the manuscript: Ethics Committee of University Jaume I Castellon, Spain, approval number: 4/2017.

Page 9, Lines 223-224

Page 22, Lines 613-614

4) Please ensure that the grant approval number from the Ministerio De Economía Y Competitividad is correctly given in the manuscript and in the funding section of the Declarations.

We corrected the grant approval number from the Ministerio De Economía y Competitividad. We wrote the correct number in the manuscript and in the funding section of the Declarations: Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad (Spain) (Plan Nacional PSI2014-60980-JIN)

Page 26, Lines 631-632

Page 26, Lines 647-649
5) Please state the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript. This should be declared in the funding section of the Declarations. Please also indicate in this section that the study protocol was peer-reviewed by the funding body.

Thank you very much. We added in the funding section of the Declarations that the protocol was peer-reviewed by the funding bodies.

Page 26, Line 633-634

Furthermore we stated the role of the funding bodies: The funding institutions had no role in the design of the study and will not have any role during its execution, analyses and interpretation of the data, or decision to submit results.

Page 26, Line 634-636

6) Please remove the cover letters and checklist that are attached to the manuscript, as this was for editorial purposes.

We removed the cover letters and checklist that are attached to the manuscript.

7) We have noted that the manuscript contains substantial textual overlap with a previous publication of yours pertaining to Diaz-Garcia et al., 2017 (https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-017-1297-z). Additionally some text overlap has been noted with respect to Richards et al., 2014 (https://doi.org/10.1186/1745-6215-15-145) which is particularly evident in the Methods.

While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please re-phrase these sections in your own words and endeavour to avoid direct overlap (please note, we cannot accept direct textual overlap with any previously published works even if the authors of the work are yourselves). Please note that an abundance of overlapping text may preclude a given manuscript from publication. Therefore, we ask that you please re-phrase these sections to minimise overlap and prevent future delays in the editorial process for your manuscript. Please also ensure that you cite previous published work that is relevant to the current study.

Thank you. We revised carefully all the manuscript and rephrase the duplicated text. However, if you feel that this version of the manuscript could be improved, please, let us know and we will make the appropriate modifications.
Following your recommendation, we added other recent published works that are relevant for the current study:


We added this sentence in the discussion section:

Recent findings suggest that explicitly focusing on positive emotions efficiently improve depressive symptoms and help to achieve more profound change in positive functioning measures [96-98].

Page 22, Lines 538-540

8) When submitting your revised manuscript please ensure you do so as a single clean copy without any tracked changes, colored or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

Finally, we corrected the information regarding the Resilience Scale used in the study. In the present study we used the Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (CD-RISC). Page 15, Line 375-381. And not the RS-14 explained in the previous version of the manuscript. Apologies for the mistake.

We submitted a clean copy of the manuscript without tracked changes.

Thank you for your consideration.

We are looking forward to receiving your reply.

Sincerely,

Adriana Mira, PhD