Author's response to reviews

Title: The Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Program (ECHO): An ecologically-based intervention delivered by home visitors for newborns and their mothers

Authors:

Michelle M Cloutier (mclouti@connecticutchildrens.org)
James Wiley (Jwiley01@connecticutchildrens.org)
Zhu Wang (zwang@connecticutchildrens.org)
Autherene Grant (agrant@connecticutchildrens.org)
Amy A Gorin (amy.gorin@uconn.edu)

Version: 2 Date: 21 May 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
May 12, 2015

Dear Editors:

Thank you for considering our manuscript entitled: “The Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Program (ECHO): An ecologically-based intervention delivered by home visitors for newborns and their mothers” for possible consideration for publication in *BMC Public Health*.

We believe that this manuscript is worthy of publication because:

1. It addresses a major problem, namely the obesity epidemic.
2. It addresses obesity in a very vulnerable group, namely, minority children.
3. It uses an innovative approach to obesity prevention, namely, home visitors.
4. It uses an innovative model, namely an ecological model, to address the broader determinants of obesity and hopefully obesity prevention.
5. If successful, this intervention could be disseminated at reasonable cost.

All of the authors of the manuscript have read and agree to the content and are accountable for all aspects of the accuracy and integrity of the manuscript. All readily reproducible materials described in the manuscript will be freely available to any scientist wishing to use them for non-commercial purposes.

May 21, 2015

In response to your e-mail dated May 15, 2015:

1. This study has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board at CT Children’s Medical Center. Documentation of IRB approval has been forward to the BMC Series Editor as requested.

2. This study is being funded by NICHD (R21 HD073966-01) and was peer-reviewed by study section for NICHD.

3. The study is on-going. Recruitment has been completed and participants are in the active intervention stage.

4. This represents the first publication related to this study. The manuscript is original, has not already been published in a journal and is not currently under consideration by another journal.

The trial registration number and the date of registration have been provided in the manuscript at the end of the abstract.
If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Michelle M. Cloutier, MD
Professor of Pediatrics
University of Connecticut Health Center
Children’s Center for Community Research
CT Children’s Medical Center
282 Washington St.
Hartford, CT 06106