Author's response to reviews

Title: Active Smarter Kids (ASK): Rationale and design of a cluster-randomized controlled trial investigating the effects of daily physical activity on children's academic performance and risk factors for non-communicable diseases.

Authors:

Geir K Resaland (geirkr@hisf.no)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editor-in-chief,

Re: “Active Smarter Kids (ASK): Rationale and design of a cluster-randomized controlled trial investigating the effects of daily physical activity on children’s academic performance and risk factors for non-communicable diseases.” by GK Resaland et al.

Please find as attached the above manuscript, which we hope will be considered for publication in the BMC Public Health.

1. Ethical and Funding Approval Documentation
The ASK study was approved by The Regional Committee for Medical Research Ethics on the 4th of March 2014 (2013/1893/REK).

This information is now forwarded to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

See attachment from Erik Kyrkjebø, Vice-rector of R&D at Sogn og Fjordane University College, that confirm the information. Please contact Erik Kyrkjebø if necessary (Erik.Kyrkjebo@hisf.no).

2. Funding
The ASK study was both internally and externally funded.

Main external source:
Governmental funding
The Research Council of Norway (ID number 221047/F40).
http://www.forskningsradet.no/en/Home_page/1177315753906
Contact person: Marianne Helstad Nalum (mhn@forskningsradet.no).

The ASK protocol has undergone peer-review by the Research Council of Norway. Main overall assessment from the referee/panel was: selected mark: 7 (of 7) – Exceptional. An exceptional project with high quality in terms of the criteria assessed. The peer-review review from the Research Council of Norway is forwarded to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

Second external source:
Charitable foundation
The Gjensidige Foundation (Case number:1042294),
http://www.gjensidigestiftelsen.no/english
Contact person: Ingrid Tollnes (Ingrid.Tollanes@gjensidigestiftelsen.no).
Internal source:
Sogn og Fjordane University College (Organization number 974246724)
http://vev.hisf.no/en/home
Contact person: Erik Kyrkjebø (Erik.Kyrkjebo@hisf.no).

3. Study status
The ASK study status is ongoing. We completed data collection in week 25. The ASK study is now at the data entering stage (June/July). Next stage will be analyzing data (August/September).

4. Related Articles
We believe the manuscript represents valid work and no manuscript with similar content under our authorship has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

If there are any questions, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,
Geir K. Resaland

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