Author’s response to reviews

Title: Feasibility of a Behavioral Automaticity Intervention Among African Americans at Risk for Metabolic Syndrome

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To Editorial board and Reviewers


We would like to thank the reviewer for their careful read of our manuscript and for identifying the errors below. We have completed all of the suggested revisions and have prepared a clean manuscript file as per the instructions. A point by point response to the reviewer’s feedback is below.

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1. This overlap mainly exists in the methods section.

While we understand that this is work that you have previously published, and some of the same ideas are contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. If there is overlap in the Methods section, please ensure to summarize the methods and cite the source. Please re-phrase these sections to minimise overlap.

In addition to the already stating and citing the study protocol, we have revised several paragraphs in the methods section to reduce the textual overlap (pages 7-11). We have also inserted the citation for protocol paper throughout the methods text in area where there really was no other way to reduce the overlap in text (e.g., when listing the supplies included in the welcome bag”.

2. Please ensure that the 'Recruitment and Enrollment' paragraph 2 and Background- line 73-77 are formatted correctly.

We have revised to text to right justify all paragraphs in the document as well as to right justify the section headers and sub headers per the BMC template.

3. Please represent authors' names using their full initials, not their full name, in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors.

We have revised the text and it now only includes initials.

4. If Figure titles/legends are also within the main text of the manuscript, please remove them.

We have removed five figure titles/legends from the text.

5. Please ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the text. Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication. (Table 3)

We have checked and all tables/figures and supplemental files are referenced in the text.

6. 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 have uploaded a clean copy without highlighting/color or line numbers.