Author’s response to reviews

Title: Protocol for a multi-centre randomised controlled trial comparing arthroscopic hip surgery to physiotherapy-led care for femoroacetabular impingement (FAI): the Australian FASHIoN trial

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Dear Editor,

Thank you for reviewing the Australian FASHIoN study protocol manuscript. All the suggested editorial changes have been adopted in the revised manuscript. Please find below a detailed point-by-point response to the editorial points raised.

8th September 2017
1) Abstract: please add '(retrospectively registered)' after the date of registration of the trial, i.e. Trial registration details: Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry reference: ACTRN12615001177549. Trial registered 2/11/2015 (retrospectively registered).

Thank you for drawing our attention to this omission. As suggested, “retrospectively registered” has been added to the text (Abstract, line 7, page 4).

2) Methods section: please provide the names of all of the sites at which the study will be carried out.

The names of all sites at which the study will be carried out have been added to the text, as requested (Methods, lines 7-13, page 9).

3) Ethical approval and consent for publication: please provide the name of the ethics committee rather than just “local ethics committee”.

The name of the ethics committee, “St Vincent’s Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC/14/SVH/343)”, has been added to the text (Ethics approval, lines 13-14, page 27).

4) Competing interests: Michelle Hall is a member of the Editorial Board of the journal and this needs to be stated in this section, i.e. MH is a member of the Editorial Board of BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders.

Thank you for drawing our attention to this omission. The suggested change has been incorporated into the manuscript (Competing interests, lines 24-25, page 27).

5) Author contributions: please check that all of the authors are listed correctly as the contribution of ED does not appear to be present.

The author contributions have been checked. ED has been added as contributing to study conception and design (Author contributions, line 8, page 27).

6) Tables should not be embedded in the text but should be moved to appear after the reference list.

The suggested change has been made (Appendix, Page 33, line 2).
7) Figures: the title/legends should be removed from the Figures and placed within the main Word file after the reference list.

The suggested change has been made (Appendix, Page 33, lines 4-10).

We thank the editor for these thoughtful suggestions and hope that with these changes the manuscript will be suitable for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Murphy, David Hunter (corresponding author)