Author’s response to reviews

Title: Effectiveness of a Culturally Tailored SMS Alcohol Intervention for Same-Sex Attracted Women: Protocol for an RCT

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Author’s response to reviews:

RE: Effectiveness of a Tailored SMS Alcohol Intervention for Same-Sex Attracted Women: Protocol for an RCT (BMWH-D-18-00283)

Dear Tovah Honor Aronin,

Thank you for reviewing our manuscript and for the opportunity to respond. The minor edits required have all been addressed and each response is listed below.

We have ensured the formatting of the revised manuscript is correct.

Kind regards,

Petra K. Staiger
Editor Comments

1. Figures

Please place your figure legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References.

Figures should be provided as separate files, and each figure of a manuscript should be submitted as a single file.

If figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.

Figure files should contain only the image/graphic, as well as any associated keys/annotations. If titles or legends are present within the figure files, please remove them.

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.

Response: Figure 1 has been removed from the manuscript and saved/uploaded as a separate file named ‘Figure 1’. The new heading ‘Figure Legends’ has been added to line 767, page 41 and the title for Figure 1 is now under this heading.

2. Ethics and consent to participate

Please include the type of consent provided i.e. written or verbal.

Only if applicable: please provide clarification on why verbal consent was obtained, and not written consent. Please also provide clarification on whether obtaining only verbal consent was approved by the ethics committee.

Response: Under Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate, lines 527 to 529, page 29, the statement on consent has been updated to state that written consent was obtained from
participants: “Participants indicated their consent to participate in the study by checking a box on the home page of the baseline survey before completing the survey.”

3. Clean manuscript Final Checks

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.

Please remove any files that should not be published along with your manuscript e.g. cover letters, reviewer responses, guidelines etc., ready for publication.

Response: A single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours has been uploaded. The additional file containing Figure 1 is also clean and does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours.

Reviewer 2 Comments

1. I'm happy with the revisions the authors have made to the manuscript. There were two small things I noticed. 1) In the last box in Figure 1, there is a grammatical error - "be interview". 2) I think the inclusion of transgender men needs a little more explanation as this is a study of same-sex attracted women. I am assuming transgender men are included as many trans men are involved in lesbian and queer women's communities prior to transitioning, but I think the authors need to explain their rationale.

Response: 1) The grammatical error in the last box in Figure 1 has been amended and now reads, “Intervention participants invited to be interviewed”. 2) A rationale has been included under Eligibility criteria, lines 176 to 180, page 9: “Transgender men were eligible as these individuals were likely involved in lesbian, bisexual, and queer women’s communities prior to transitioning.
to male; and if the individual has not undergone gender reassignment surgery, certain female health issues will still affect them.”