Author’s response to reviews

Title: Tracking physical activity using smart phone apps: Assessing the ability of a current app and systematically collecting patient recommendations for future development

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Rebecca Strong and associated editors:

We appreciate the minor revision request on our manuscript “Tracking physical activity using smart phone apps: Assessing the ability of a current app and systematically collecting patient recommendations for future development” for consideration by BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making. The reference ID is MIDM-D-19-00108.

All authors have approved the revised manuscript and agree with its re-submission. Below we respond to the editor and reviewers’ comments.
Sincerely Yours,

All authors

Editorial Comments:

1 - Please remove any files from the file inventory that you do not wish to see published.

Response Files that we do not wish to see published have been removed from the inventory.

2 - For all research involving human subjects, informed consent to participate in the study should be obtained from participants (or their parent or guardian in the case of children under 16) and a statement to this effect should appear in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section of the Declarations including whether the consent was written. When reporting on such studies, individual patient data should not be made available unless consent for publication has also been obtained.

If the need for informed consent has been waived by an IRB or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this with details, including the name of the Board or a reference to the relevant legislation in the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ section of the Declarations.

Response The Ethics approval and consent to participate section on page 24 was amended to include that Consent was written.

3 - In the Funding section of the Declarations please indicate the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript. If no specific funding was received for this study, please clearly indicate this in the Funding section.

Response The following statement has been added to the funding section on page 24: The funders had no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

4 - Please use (unique) initials in the Authors' contributions section rather than names.

Response The Authors’ contributions section on page 24 now contains initials rather than names.

5 - If you wish to acknowledge someone by name in the Acknowledgements, please ensure you have obtained permission from them to do so.

Response We have permission of London-Riverside and Pendaran Roberts to include them in the acknowledgements section.
6 - Please cite references in the text and in the References section as recommended in our instructions to authors.

Response: I have checked that all the references in the text are provided in the reference section and vice versa. All of the references are in Vancouver style. We are happy to amend further if provided with additional instructions.

7 - At this stage, please upload your proofread manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethrough or text in different colours. All relevant tables and figures should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.

Response: The manuscript is a clean version, i.e. no track changes, etc. The figures and additional files are uploaded as separate files.

Editorial Policies

In accordance with BioMed Central editorial policies and formatting guidelines, all manuscript submissions to BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making must contain a Declarations section which includes the mandatory sub-sections listed below. Please refer to the journal's Submission Guidelines web page for information regarding the criteria for each sub-section (https://bmcmedinformdecismak.biomedcentral.com/).

Response: All of the declarations have been checked for completeness and alignment with BMC’s recommendations. We are happy to amend further if provided with additional instructions.

In addition to the described responses, we have also included in this resubmission a change of author form. This change of author form changes the corresponding author from Kelly Schmidtke to Ivo Vlaev. This change is being made to ensure the payment for the article can be processed through the University of Warwick. This change is necessary because Kelly Schmidtke is changing employers and her current employer (Manchester Metropolitan University) will not pay for this publication. Ivo Vlaev’s current employer (The University of Warwick) will pay for this publication.