Author's response to reviews

Title: Sun at Work: a multiple case study protocol to develop sun safety programs and policies for outdoor workers

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Author's response to reviews: see over
May 12, 2015

Re: MS: 1526970791702911

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed our Protocol Manuscript with additions, for your approval for publication. Please note that the name of the project has changed from Sun at Work, to Sun Safety Canada.

**Title:** Sun Safety Canada: a multiple case study protocol to develop sun safety programs and policies for outdoor workers

**Authorship:** Desre M. Kramer, Rivka Kushner, Peter Strahlendorf, Audrey Gardner, Linn D. Holness, and Thomas Tenkate.

With reference to the changes requested by Ms Javonitalla (dated May 7, 2015) please find the following additions:

1. A Competing Interest section has been included at the end of the manuscript. The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.
2. An Acknowledgement section has been added at the end of the manuscript. Permission has been obtained to include those in the acknowledgements.
3. Sources of funding for two of the authors has been included in the Extra Documents section. Only Drs. Kramer and Holness hold grants over and above the Sun at Work grant (held also by Drs. Thomas Tenkate and Peter Strahlendorf.)
4. An Authors’ Contribution section has been added at the end of the manuscript.
5. Figure 7 has been uploaded.
6. The study was funded by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC), an independent organization funded by the Canadian federal government that has the mandate to implement the Canadian strategy for cancer control. The funding letter between Ryerson University and the Occupational Cancer Research Centre – which makes reference to CPAC’s funding in the second paragraph -- has been uploaded; a letter between Ryerson and CPAC does not exist since the arrangement was done verbally.
7. Also attached is the Ethics letters from the Community Research Ethics Board and the Research Ethics Board at Ryerson University.
With reference to your newly published article on the reappraisal of your journal’s mission and scope (Foy et al, 2015, 10:51), may I make the following points how this Protocol manuscript is appropriate for publication in Implementation Science:

- The protocol has gone through peer-review for its funding. The funding is from a nationally recognized research agency. It has received Ethical approval from two Ethics Boards (paperwork has been enclosed at attachments);
- The field of interest is population health;
- The implementation or data collection has not been initiated; the recruitment of workplaces is in process.
- The study’s outcome is the reduction of cancer and heat stress due to sun exposure;
- We have extensively cited the evidence-based health literature upon which this study is based, and have contextualized the workplace interventions and roll out within the existing implementation literature.
- The protocol is for both Part I and Part II of the study. Part I will be conducted in 12 workplaces and in four Canadian provinces. Part II is the scale up and dissemination of the findings from Part I, to encourage the implementation of sun safety programs and policies in workplaces across Canada. The implementation has not yet been initiated; the recruitment of workplaces is in process.
- The study design is quasi-experimental and we will be using mixed methods for our three-stage (robust) effectiveness evaluation of the implementation initiative in 12 workplaces;
- Our evaluation will be based upon three conceptual frameworks that have as their foundation the theories of implementation science. The contribution to implementation research will be the exploration and evaluation of these models to real-world implementation in the multiple workplaces and in the dissemination part of the study.

Sincerely yours,

Desre Kramer

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