Author’s response to reviews

Title: Implementing the Teen Marijuana Check-Up in schools - A study protocol

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Editor Comments

At around 6500 words the manuscript is longer than our word count limit of 5500 words. The manuscript needs to be within our word count limit. We routinely encourage authors to use additional online files in order to bring the word count of the main text down.

This broad, singular point of feedback was very helpful, as our authorship group had previously been unaware of the word count limit for study protocol submissions at this journal. Admittedly, our initial drafting of the manuscript included more effort aimed at comprehensiveness than succinctness. In consequent revision of this manuscript, we believe we have achieved both. By applying a more succinct writing style throughout, changes in the revised manuscript (word count – 5448) principally reflect the removal of what had been superfluous (and in some instances, redundant) verbiage. The heaviest editing was applied to the 1st four introductory paragraphs, though in our opinion without substantive change to necessary background information concerning the focal intervention or field out of which it emerged. Notably, text reductions did not require re-appropriation of content in additional online files. The SPIRIT Checklist has also been revised to correspond with new page numbers on which various trial design features are now found.