Reviewer's report

Title: Telephone-based goal management training for adults with mild traumatic brain injury: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 20 April 2015

Reviewer: Erik Cobo

Reviewer's report:

I read the trial paper from Kristin R. Archer, et al. about Telephone-based goal management training for TBI, and I think it deserves publication in Trials. Nevertheless, I would like to make some suggestions.

- Major Compulsory Revisions

As there are several comparisons (two ‘active’ arms, two follow-up ends, several main variables,…), please specify how would you control multiplicity and that a closed statistical analysis plan will be fully specified before data collection is closed. Alternatively, please consider specifying your study is hypothesis generating —neither confirmatory nor pivotal— and to soft the wording —e.g., changing “determine the efficacy” by “explore the efficacy” in purpose.

- Minor essential Revisions

Please, consider specifying how you will avoid or control or measure performance bias during the trial (e.g., further interventions for just one arm).

Please, be prepared to follow in your final report not only the CONSORT general statement, but also its extension to non-pharmacologic interventions.

- Discretionary revisions

As GMT will be compared against two controls, please note that power would be maximize if the allocation ratio were sqrt(2):1:1.

To minimize 7 months attrition, please consider advice at:

Please, consider deleting “to conduct a three-group randomized controlled clinic trial” in last introduction sentence, since the study is a tool, not the purpose.

My best wishes for the next phases of your meritorious work.

Erik Cobo

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests