Author’s response to reviews

Title: Relaxation and Exercise In Lymphoma survivors (REIL study): a randomised clinical trial protocol

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Thank you for your comments on revised manuscript. Point by point response:

1. It is found that this study with the exact same title and author list is detailed here, DOI: 10.1200/jgo.18.64900. Can you please explain why this study protocol appears to be detailed, proposed, and published in another journal prior to BMC Sports Science, Medicine, and Rehabilitation?

This manuscript submitted has not been submitted to any other journal. The abstract of this study was submitted to the World Cancer Congress 2018 in Kuala Lumpur last year. It was accepted as a poster presentation under Track 4 - Maximising Quality of Life and Death, Empowering Patients and Caregivers. However, none of the authors were able to attend and present this, and the submission was withdrawn as instructed. The authors have not submitted this paper or the abstract to any journal, the link is an unapproved publication of the withdrawn abstract and the authors were unaware that this was published as a conference abstract (with no companion/subsequent article). We attach screenshots of the email communication from the conference organisation re: the above matter to further explain, please let us know if you require the full email correspondence.

The paper is titled as per SPIRIT 2013 guidelines – identifying study design, population, interventions and trial acronym. The title of the present submitted manuscript can be altered so that it is not the same as the unapproved published abstract – the title of the paper may be altered to the following if it would be helpful in this situation:

“The REIL Study Protocol – Relaxation and Exercise In Lymphoma survivors.”
2. 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.

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We look forward to hearing your decision on our manuscript, thank you.