Author's response to reviews

Title: Effectiveness of management models for facilitating self-management and patient outcomes in adults with diabetes and chronic kidney disease

Authors:

EDWARD ZIMBUDZI (edward.zimbudzi@monash.edu)
CLEMENT LO (clement.lo@monash.edu)
MARIE MISSO (marie.misso@monash.edu)
SANJEEVA RANASINHA (sanjeeva.ranasinha@monash.edu)
SOPHIA ZOUNGAS (sophia.zoungas@monash.edu)

Version: 3 Date: 19 May 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Re: Effectiveness of management models for facilitating self-management and patient outcomes in adults with diabetes and chronic kidney disease

Thank you for the opportunity to re-submit an amended version of our protocol, “Effectiveness of management models for facilitating self-management and patient outcomes in adults with diabetes and chronic kidney disease”. We appreciate the reviewer’s comments and have made a number of changes to the protocol in light of the comments received. All changes made to the protocol are highlighted. Below is an itemised response to the reviewer’s comments and resultant amendments.

Major Compulsory revisions
1. Inclusion of studies: at least two review authors should perform the initial literature scan:—
   There will be a second reviewer to perform the initial literature scan (CL).

Minor Essential Revisions
1. Methods, Population/Participants: Adult patients (above 18 years) with diabetes and/or CKD in any healthcare setting (title is: Effectiveness of management models for facilitating self-management and patient outcomes in adults with diabetes and chronic kidney disease):—
   Methods section has been amended to: Adult patients (above 18 years) with diabetes and CKD in any healthcare setting
2. Methods, Interventions, Relevant intervention components include: Former comment not addressed: “Only studies whose chronic disease management models have included one or more of the above components will be eligible for inclusion.” So, if for example a study just provides materials to patients (‘patient education’) this would be called a chronic disease management programme:-

Patient education plays an integral role in the management of chronic disease hence if a study provides materials to patients for educational purposes, such a study will be deemed a chronic disease management programme. It is through the self-management education programmes that patients get empowered by receiving information and acquiring skills to improve self-care and doctor–patient interaction, with the ultimate goal of improving quality of life.

3. Outcomes: adverse events should always be investigated: -

Adverse events such as hospitalisation and deaths will be investigated.

4. Search strategy (appendix A): lines 56 and 57 do not fit description of study design/setting (page 8) which relates to RCTs. Why is a search with/without RCT filter employed (appendix A/B) where authors just look for RCTs?

Appendix A (from original search, first submission, which needed to be amended) was resubmitted in error. Appendix B is the amended version of the search which takes into consideration the reviewer’s comments and this is the one which was supposed to have been submitted (second submission). This Appendix has now been renamed Appendix A in this current submission.

We believe that the protocol has been enhanced significantly by the reviewer’s comments. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to re-submit the amended version of the protocol for consideration of publication in the Systematic Reviews Journal.

Kind regards,

Corresponding author
Mr. Edward Zimbudzi
Level 1, 43-51 Kanooka Grove
Clayton, VIC 3168, Australia
Australia
T: 0061-3-95943618
F: 0061-3-95946907
Email: edward.zimbudzi@monash.edu