Author's response to reviews

Title: DECADE-pilot: Decision aid, action planning, and follow up support for patients to reduce the 10-year risk of cardiovascular diseases. A protocol of a randomized controlled pilot trial

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Mr. Husband,

Thank you very much for your improvement suggestions. We highlighted the new changes in the manuscript in grey.

With best regards

Iris Tinsel

Point-by-point response

Please correct the following

The use of the word brochure throughout to describe the DECADE tool is arguably inappropriate, a brochure is usually used as a marketing tool and I'm not sure it fits here. I would ask you to consider this viewpoint. Given the structure of the intervention it could be argued to be a module.

A: Thank you for this important hint. The authors agreed to use the term “booklet” instead of brochure. We changed it in the whole MS.
Abstract

Line 2 remove 'major' from difficulties, hyperbole is unnecessary
A: We removed ‘major’

Line 3 should read 'increasing physical activity' also change 'healthy nutrition' top ' healthy diet'
A: Corrected as suggested: ‘increasing physical activity’ and ‘healthy diet’

Line 6 should read 'their 10-year risk..'
A: Corrected as suggested

Background

Para 1

Line 3 change 'unhealthy nutrition to 'unhealthy diet'
A: We changed ‘nutrition’ in ‘diet’

Line 9 remove 'major' from difficulties the hyperbole is unnecessary
A: We removed ‘major’

Para 2

Line 3 ‘Blood thinners’ should read 'oral anticoagulants' if you mean to include parenteral anticoagulants in this then say so. Change 'medication for type 2 diabetes' to 'oral antihyperglycaemic agents'
A: Ce changed the terms as suggested

Line 8 'With' should be 'with' contentious point of punctuation but the explanation thereafter is one sentence
A: Corrected as suggested.

Line 15 change 'educational trainings' to 'educational training'
A: We deleted the “s” as suggested

Para 5
Line 1 I would argue predicated is a better choice of word than premised

A: We replaced ‘premised’ as suggested

Para 6 starting 'DECADE contains......'

Change 'physical activation' to 'physical activity'

A: Corrected as suggested

Para 7

Remove 'so far' also I would argue you should introduce this sentence with the words 'Based on this search....'

A: We changed the sentence in: “Based on a search for comparable interventions in national and international decision aids databases [13, 14, 43], we could not find other interventions that include all of the elements offered by DECADE.”

Methods/design

Para 4

Exclusion criterion (2) should read 'substance or alcohol dependance' not addiction

A: We changed the terms in: ‘substance or alcohol dependence’

Para 6

Line 3 should read 'in the case of diabetes' you have missed out the definitive article

A: We inserted ‘the’

Qualitative data assessment

Para 1

Change 'like smoker' to 'smoking status', Im presuming you will also want some sort of indicator of quantification in this also?

A: We changed ‘smoker’ into ‘smoking status’. The CVR calculator arriba or the arriba-forms respectively do not offer possibilities for the quantification of smoking. Patients will be ask in the questionnaire to rate their smoking intensity (see paragraph 2 => IRES).
Patient questionnaires

Change 'unhealthy nutrition' to 'unhealthy diet'

A: changed as suggested

Study endpoints and analysis

Para 6

Line 1 change 'on patient level ' to 'at the patient level'

A: Corrected as suggested

Please also take a moment to check our website at  for any additional comments that were saved as attachments. Please note that as Pilot and Feasibility Studies has a policy of open peer review, you will be able to see the names of the reviewers.

A: We improved the citation of the four non-validated references