Author's response to reviews

Title: The MS@Work study: A 3-year prospective observational study on factors involved with work participation in patients with relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find enclosed our slightly revised paper entitled ‘The MS@Work study: A 3-year prospective observational study on factors involved with work participation in patients with relapsing-remitting Multiple Sclerosis’ (MS: 811236915174715). We added line and page numbering. Furthermore, we added one co-author (Dr. E.P.J. Arnoldus) who is involved with data acquisition at the St. Elisabeth-Twee Steden Hospital. He read and approved the final manuscript.

Hereby I send you our response to the questions in your e-mail from June 9, 2015:

**Ethical and funding approval**

The MS@Work study has received ethical approval from the Medical Ethical Committee Brabant (NL43098.008.12 1307) and funding approval from the National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Teva Pharmaceuticals and ZonMw (TOP Grant, project number: 842003003). ZonMw is an external, governmental party that performed an extensive peer-review and is the main funding party. We sent the requested ethical and funding approval documentation to BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com. Essential parts were translated in English and approved and signed by a contactable person at the institutions.

**Competing interests**

The MS@Work study is partially funded by a commercial party, Teva Pharmaceuticals. We added this information to the ‘competing interests’ section. It was already stated in the ‘acknowledgements’ section.

**Study status**

The MS@Work study is ongoing. We are currently collecting data for the baseline and 6 months time points.

**Related Articles**

An e-poster concerning the MS@Work study has been presented at the 1st Congress of the European Academy of Neurology on the 22th of June, in Berlin.
The abstract will be published in the European Journal of Neurology:
Van Gorp DAM, Van der Hiele K, Heerings MAP, Jongen PJ, Van Lieshout I, Vosman et al.
The MS@Work study – Predictors of employment status and work absenteeism in relapsing-remitting Multiple Sclerosis (ePoster #P3245). Eur J Neurol, in press.

Thank you in advance for your kind attention in this matter.

Also on behalf of the co-authors,

Sincerely,
K van der Hiele

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