

Author's response to reviews

Title: Is complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) cost-effective? a systematic review

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Author's response to reviews:

MS# 1463105633573636 - Is complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) cost-effective? a systematic review

Dear Editor and Reviewers,

My co-authors and I are delighted that you have accepted our manuscript in principle. The entire manuscript has been reviewed and a point by point description of the revisions made per your e-mail dated May 20, 2005, follows:

- * The sentence fragment found at the beginning of the methods section of the abstract was modified to read as a full sentence.
- * The references in the manuscript text were all placed before the period at the end of a sentence, or before the comma or other punctuation within a sentence.
- * The section headings were all modified to sentence case.
- * The references were moved to after the Acknowledgements section and before the tables.
- * The following was added to the end of the sentence in the text (page 17) referring to the additional file: [see Additional file 1].
- * The file format, title of the data, and a short description of the additional file (Appendix.doc) was added after the tables.

We were not able to accommodate the reviewer recommendation that we "shorten the background section to make it more focused on the questions addressed in the manuscript." In rereading the manuscript we could not identify any sections that could obviously be omitted, especially since the manuscript states that it has a two-fold purpose with one objective being "to introduce concepts" (page 5) and we have stated that "readers familiar with this type of analysis can skip this section" (page 6). A reply e-mail was transmitted on May 20th emphasizing these points and requesting clarification on the recommendation. However, my co-authors and I have decided to submit this revised and proofed manuscript in anticipation of your reply.

Thank you for the opportunity to revise and proof this manuscript. We look forward to its publication.