Appendix 1. The institutional review board authorization

CEEI - IRB
Comité d’Evaluation Ethique de l’Inserm
IRB00003888

Nos réf: CD / VB 17-008
Dossier suivi par:
Christine DOSQUET – CEEI @: ceei@inserm.fr

Monsieur Anthony CHAUVIN
Centre d’Epidemiologie Clinique
Hôpital Hôtel Dieu
1, place du Parvis Notre-Dame
75181 PARIS Cedex 4

Paris, January 21st 2017

To whom it may concern
Opinion number 17-355

Sir,

The Ethics Evaluation Committee of Inserm, the Institutional Review Board (IRB00003888, IORG0003254,FWA00005831) of the French Institute of Health and Medical Research, has reviewed and approved the research project entitled:

« Development and evaluation of an online tool dedicated to junior peer reviewers for assessing the reporting of randomized controlled trial reports: a protocol ». 

The investigator undertakes to respect the protocol and to follow the recommendations proposed by the ethics evaluation committee.

Yours sincerely,

[signature]
Christine DOSQUET
IRB President
Appendix 2. Information for participants

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Title: Online Training Module to Peer Review.

Dear colleague /XX/student,

We would like to invite you to participate in an academic study of an online training module and a specific tool dedicated to early career peer reviewers when assessing a randomized controlled trial.

This study is performed in collaboration with medical journal editors, the CONSORT group and the EQUATOR network.

When the study is completed, you will receive 1 credit of Continued Medical Education (CME) for your participation in this training programme. Further, we will send you the study results and acknowledge your participation, if you agree to have your name cited in the manuscript acknowledgments section. Finally, this programme is a unique opportunity for you to gain expertise in peer-reviewing and become a peer reviewer for journal editors.

This training programme is focused on the assessment of the completeness of reporting in manuscripts of randomized controlled trials according to the CONSORT statements, and the switch in primary outcomes, which are essential elements in the peer review process. During this programme, you will 1) assess the completeness of reporting of manuscripts extracts using the tool (with immediate feedback and explanation of incorrect responses), and 2) assess a full text article using the tool.

If you are successful (i.e. >80% appropriate answers), you will have to assess a final manuscript.

We estimate that this process will take about one hour.

All information collected during this study will be treated confidentially.

Thank you very much in advance for your help with this project

Sincerely,

Pr Isabelle Boutron (Paris Descartes University, INSERM, France),
Dr Anthony Chauvin (Paris Descartes University, INSERM, France)
Dr David Moher (Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Canada)
Pr Philippe Ravaud (Paris Descartes University, INSERM, France),

Authorization by CNIL ("Commission National de l’Information et des libertés") whose remit is to protect participants’ personal data and the institutional review board of INSERM ethics committee (IRB xxxxxx) was obtained. In accordance with the law "Informatique et Libertés" of 6 January 1978 amended in 2004, you have the right to access and rectify any information concerning you, which can be exercised by contacting Professor
Isabelle Boutron, Research Center Epidemiology and statistics Sorbonne Paris Cité (isabelle.boutron@htd.aphp.fr).
If you have any questions during your participation in this study, you can contact the person in charge of the study, Professor Isabelle Boutron, tel: +33 (0)1 42 34 78 33, mail: isabelle.boutron@htd.aphp.fr