Supplementary file 1. Survey sent to the study participants via e-mail

Dear ...[*insert title and name*],

My name is Dinka Begic, and I am conducting a study about blinding in randomised controlled trials. Together with Prof. Livia Puljak from Cochrane Croatia and our research team, we are trying to further investigate who exactly was blinded in trials described as „double blinded“, and what is the definition of double blinding that researchers use in clinical trials.

We would kindly ask you to participate in our research by answering three quick questions, which should take approximately five minutes of your time. The protocol of our research was approved by the Ethics committee of the University of Split School of Medicine on October 12th, 2018. Your response to this message will be considered as informed consent for participating in this study. We aim to publish anonymized data.

You are receiving invitation to participate in this research because you were a corresponding author for the RCT, which was described as double-blind: [*insert title of the study*]

These questions refer to that particular trial.

Questions

1. Who was blinded in your trial described as a double-blind? Please delete from the list below all of the persons in your trial that were NOT blinded, so that the remaining list contains only those who were blinded.
    a. *participant*s
    b. *healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant*
    c. *data collectors*
    d. *outcome assessors*
    e. *data analysts*
    f. *manuscript writers*

2.1 What is your personal definition of a single-blind trial? Please delete from the list below all of the persons who, in your personal opinion, are NOT blinded, so that the remaining list contains only individuals who are blinded in a single-blind trial.

    a. *participants*
    b. *healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant*
    c. *data collectors*
    d. *outcome assessors*
    e. *data analysts*
    f. *manuscript writers*

2.2 What is your personal definition of a double blinded trial? Please delete from the list below all of the persons who, in your personal opinion, are NOT blinded, so that the remaining list contains only individuals who are blinded in a double-blind trial.

a. *participant*s
b. *healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant*
c. *data collectors*
d. *outcome assessors*
e. *data analysts*
f. *manuscript writers*

2.3 What is your personal definition of a triple-blind trial? Please delete from the list below all of the persons who, in your personal opinion, are NOT blinded, so that the remaining list contains only individuals who are blinded in a triple-blind trial.

a. *participant*s
b. *healthcare providers such as physicians or nurses taking care of a participant*
c. *data collectors*
d. *outcome assessors*
e. *data analysts*
f. *manuscript writers*

3. How often is your personal definition of a double-blind trial used in published trials? Can you please estimate using percentages:

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Thank you very much for participating in this study.

Sincere regards,
Dinka Begic, MD
Prof. Livia Puljak, MD, PhD, Cochrane Croatia