

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Utilising provider-parent strategies to improve influenza vaccination in children and adolescents with special risk medical conditions: a randomised controlled trial protocol
AUTHORS	TUCKERMAN, Jane; Harper, Kelly; Sullivan, Thomas; Fereday, Jenny; Couper, Jennifer; Smith, Nicholas; Tai, Andrew; Kelly, Andrew; Couper, Richard; Friswell, Mark; Flood, Louise; Danchin, Margaret; Blyth, Christopher C.; Marshall, Helen

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Yeung, Karene Hoi Ting The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Department of Paediatrics
REVIEW RETURNED	11-Nov-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>Overall a very clear protocol with enough background information and sound objectives.</p> <p>Some areas to improve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Describe more about how the randomisation will be done. Any software used? 2) After reading the protocol, I still cannot understand why the intervention is named Flutext-4U. Readers would be interested to understand what the 4U stands for. 3) If I didn't miss, I cannot see the start date of the study. 4) It seems to me that this study has already completed, given the last vaccination record would be 30 Sep 2021. The journal guideline of a protocol publication requires it to be a planned study or ongoing study. Would leave the decision to the journal editor on the appropriateness to include this in BMJ Open. 5) It requires more details on the delivery of interventions. How often are the SMS reminders sent? When would be the first one? 6) Abstract, Strengths and limitations of this study, last bullet: I suspect it should read: 'both arms will receive standard care', rather than 'both intervention arms will receive standard care'.
-------------------------	---

VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer #1	Response
Describe more about how the randomisation will be done. Any software used?	We have further clarified the process for randomisation, including the software to be used. The text now reads as follows. Parents (of children/adolescents) will be randomised to

	<p>study arm in a 1:1 ratio. The randomisation schedule will be prepared by an independent statistician (not otherwise involved in the conduct or analysis of the trial) using ralloc.ado version 3.7.6 in Stata version 16. Allocations will be performed using randomly permuted blocks, stratified by age-group (14 to</p>
<p>After reading the protocol, I still cannot understand why the intervention is named Flutext4U. Readers would be interested to understand what the 4U stands for.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. Given the intervention centrally includes a text message reminder it seemed appropriate to incorporate SMS language or textspeak, as is commonly used with mobile phone text messaging, into the intervention name. The intervention name. 'Flutext-4U' is a word play on the longer form of the words, 'for you' in other words, a 'flu message for you'. We have added the text (short for flu text message for you) at its first occurrence.</p>
<p>If I didn't miss, I cannot see the start date of the study.</p>	<p>The study's first enrolment was on April 15th , 2021, this has been updated in the manuscript.</p>
<p>It seems to me that this study has already completed, given the last vaccination record would be 30 Sep 2021. The journal guideline of a protocol publication requires it to be a planned study or ongoing study. Would leave the decision to the journal editor on the appropriateness to include this in BMJ Open.</p>	<p>We kindly refer to the email from the editorial office [dated 23.11.2021] advising that given the delays with peer review this would not preclude us submitting a revision.</p>
<p>It requires more details on the delivery of interventions. How often are the SMS reminders sent? When would be the first one?</p>	<p>We have added more detail on the delivery on the interventions. Influenza vaccine reminder stickers and bookmarks will be placed on the hard copy paper medical case notes of all study participants, this will occur once eligibility and enrolment are confirmed and will be up to two weeks but no less than one week prior to the appointment.</p> <p>These will be timed to be sent prior to and following scheduled WCH specialist appointments and will be sent up to two weeks but no less than one week prior to the appointment.</p> <p>The second SMS will be sent two weeks after the first SMS and the third SMS sent two weeks after the second SMS. The first child will be enrolled on April 15th, 2021.</p>
<p>Abstract, Strengths and limitations of this study, last bullet: I suspect it should read: 'both arms will receive standard care', rather than 'both intervention arms will receive standard care'.</p>	<p>Thank you for picking this up. This has been amended.</p>

Additionally, we have included a copy of the SPIRIT checklist and an Ethics and Dissemination section, as per BMJ Open guidelines for protocols has been added to the manuscript. We have also submitted the Participant Information Sheet. Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to submit a revised version of our manuscript. We look forward to your response

VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Yeung, Karene Hoi Ting The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Department of Paediatrics
REVIEW RETURNED	27-Dec-2021
GENERAL COMMENTS	All my previous comments have been clearly and adequately addressed. No further comments.