# CONSORT-EHEALTH (V 1.6.1) - Submission/Publication Form

The CONSORT-EHEALTH checklist is intended for authors of randomized trials evaluating webbased and Internet-based applications/interventions, including mobile interventions, electronic games (incl multiplayer games), social media, certain telehealth applications, and other interactive and/or networked electronic applications. Some of the items (e.g. all subitems under item 5 - description of the intervention) may also be applicable for other study designs.

The goal of the CONSORT EHEALTH checklist and guideline is to be

- a) a guide for reporting for authors of RCTs,
- b) to form a basis for appraisal of an ehealth trial (in terms of validity)

CONSORT-EHEALTH items/subitems are MANDATORY reporting items for studies published in the Journal of Medical Internet Research and other journals / scientific societies endorsing the checklist.

Items numbered 1., 2., 3., 4a., 4b etc are original CONSORT or CONSORT-NPT (non-pharmacologic treatment) items.

Items with Roman numerals (i., ii, iii, iv etc.) are CONSORT-EHEALTH extensions/clarifications.

As the CONSORT-EHEALTH checklist is still considered in a formative stage, we would ask that you also RATE ON A SCALE OF 1-5 how important/useful you feel each item is FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CHECKLIST and reporting guideline (optional).

Mandatory reporting items are marked with a red \*.

In the textboxes, either copy & paste the relevant sections from your manuscript into this formplease include any quotes from your manuscript in QUOTATION MARKS,

or answer directly by providing additional information not in the manuscript, or elaborating on why the item was not relevant for this study.

YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE PUBLISHED AS A SUPPLEMENTARY FILE TO YOUR PUBLICATION IN JMIR AND ARE CONSIDERED PART OF YOUR PUBLICATION (IF ACCEPTED).

Please fill in these questions diligently. Information will not be copyedited, so please use proper spelling and grammar, use correct capitalization, and avoid abbreviations.

DO NOT FORGET TO SAVE AS PDF \_AND\_ CLICK THE SUBMIT BUTTON SO YOUR ANSWERS ARE IN OUR DATABASE !!!

Citation Suggestion (if you append the pdf as Appendix we suggest to cite this paper in the caption):

Eysenbach G, CONSORT-EHEALTH Group

CONSORT-EHEALTH: Improving and Standardizing Evaluation Reports of Web-based and Mobile Health Interventions

J Med Internet Res 2011;13(4):e126 URL: http://www.jmir.org/2011/4/e126/

doi: 10.2196/jmir.1923 PMID: 22209829

\* Required

Your name \*

First Last

Marina Christoforou

<b>Primary</b>	Affiliation	(short),	City,	Country	*
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University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

University College London, Lo

#### Your e-mail address \*

#### abc@gmail.com

marina.christoforou.11@ucl.a

#### Title of your manuscript \*

Provide the (draft) title of your manuscript.

Comparing a disorder-specific and a transdiagnostic intervention for agoraphobia sufferers: A Randomised Controlled Trial of two novel Cognitive Behavioural Therapy-based mobile applications

[changed from: "Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Novel Mobile Application targeting Agoraphobic Symptoms: A Randomised Controlled Trial"]

#### **Article Preparation Status/Stage \***

At which stage in your article preparation are you currently (at the time you fill in this form)

- onot submitted yet in early draft status
- onot submitted yet in late draft status, just before submission
- submitted to a journal but not reviewed yet
- submitted to a journal and after receiving initial reviewer comments
- submitted to a journal and accepted, but not published yet
- published

Other:	$\bigcirc$
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#### Journal \*

If you already know where you will submit this paper (or if it is already submitted), please provide the journal name (if it is not JMIR, provide the journal name under "other")

- onot submitted yet / unclear where I will submit this
- Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR)

Other:	
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#### Manuscript tracking number \*

If this is a JMIR submission, please provide the manuscript tracking number under "other" (The ms tracking number can be found in the submission acknowledgement email, or when you login as author in JMIR. If the paper is already published in JMIR, then the ms tracking number is the four-digit number at the end of the DOI, to be found at the bottom of each published article in JMIR)

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Other:	ms#7747	

### TITLE AND ABSTRACT

## 1a) TITLE: Identification as a randomized trial in the title

1a) Does your paper address CONSORT item 1a? \*

I.e does the title contain the	e phrase "Randomized Controlled Trial"? (if not, explain the reason	under "other")
<ul><li>yes</li></ul>		
Other:		
la-i) Identify the mode dentify the mode of deliveritle. Avoid ambiguous ter	f delivery in the title  y. Preferably use "web-based" and/or "mobile" and/or "electronic gas like "online", "virtual", "interactive". Use "Internet-based" only if Ir	game" in the
ncludes non-web-based la offline products are used. In the context of "online sa	ternet components (e.g. email), use "computer-based" or "electron lse "virtual" only in the context of "virtual reality" (3-D worlds). Use oport groups". Complement or substitute product names with broa as "mobile" or "smart phone" instead of "iphone"), especially if the	ic" only if "online" only ader terms for
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Does your paper addres		
indicate direct quotes fror	ctions from manuscript title (include quotes in quotation marks "li your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additiona lain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study	
The mode of delivery is	entified in the title: "Cognitive Behavioural	
Therapy-based mobile a	plications"	
Mention non-web-based c	mponents or important co-interventions in title mponents or important co-interventions in title, if any (e.g., "with to	elephone
support").		
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1. iii) Duineana 10.*		
	or target group in the title or target group in the title, if any (e.g., "for children with Type I Diak	petes")
Mention primary condition	or target group in the title, if any (e.g., "for children with Type I Diak Mobile Intervention with Telephone Support for Children with Typ	

subitem not at all important		$\bigcirc$	essential

#### Does your paper address subitem 1a-iii? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from manuscript title (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Comparing a disorder-specific and a transdiagnostic intervention for
agoraphobia sufferers"

# 1b) ABSTRACT: Structured summary of trial design, methods, results, and conclusions

NPT extension: Description of experimental treatment, comparator, care providers, centers, and blinding status.

# 1b-i) Key features/functionalities/components of the intervention and comparator in the METHODS section of the ABSTRACT

Mention key features/functionalities/components of the intervention and comparator in the abstract. If possible, also mention theories and principles used for designing the site. Keep in mind the needs of systematic reviewers and indexers by including important synonyms. (Note: Only report in the abstract what the main paper is reporting. If this information is missing from the main body of text, consider adding it)



#### Does your paper address subitem 1b-i? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript abstract (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

The above are mentioned in the Methods section of the Abstract: "A web-based Randomised Controlled Trial compared a novel mobile application designed to target agoraphobia ("Agoraphobia Free") with an application designed to help with symptoms of anxiety in general ("Stress Free"). Both interventions were based on established cognitive-behavioural principles."

#### 1b-ii) Level of human involvement in the METHODS section of the ABSTRACT

Clarify the level of human involvement in the abstract, e.g., use phrases like "fully automated" vs. "therapist/nurse/care provider/physician-assisted" (mention number and expertise of providers involved, if any). (Note: Only report in the abstract what the main paper is reporting. If this information is missing from the main body of text, consider adding it)

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#### Does your paper address subitem 1b-ii?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript abstract (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study
1b-iii) Open vs. closed, web-based (self-assessment) vs. face-to-face assessments in the
METHODS section of the ABSTRACT
Mention how participants were recruited (online vs. offline), e.g., from an open access website or from a clinic or a closed online user group (closed usergroup trial), and clarify if this was a purely web-based trial, or there were face-to-face components (as part of the intervention or for assessment). Clearly say if outcomes were self-assessed through questionnaires (as common in web-based trials). Note: In traditional offline trials, an open trial (open-label trial) is a type of clinical trial in which both the researchers and participants know which treatment is being administered. To avoid confusion, use "blinded" or "unblinded" to indicated the level of blinding instead of "open", as "open" in web-based trials usually refers to "open access" (i.e. participants can self-enrol). (Note: Only report in the abstract what the main paper is reporting. If this information is missing from the main body of text, consider adding it)
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Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript abstract (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study
1b-iv) RESULTS section in abstract must contain use data
Report number of participants enrolled/assessed in each group, the use/uptake of the intervention (e.g., attrition/adherence metrics, use over time, number of logins etc.), in addition to primary/secondary outcomes. (Note: Only report in the abstract what the main paper is reporting. If this information is missing from the main body of text, consider adding it)
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Does your paper address subitem 1b-iv?

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<b>1b-v) CONCLUSIONS/DIS</b> Conclusions/Discussions in negative (primary outcome results are attributable to lact main paper is reporting. If the	abstract for not changed ck of uptake	negativ ), and th and dis	re trials: Disc ne interventio cuss reasons	uss the prima n was not us s. (Note: Only	ed, discuss whether negat report in the abstract wha	t tl
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07/09/2017

"Despite the fact that CBT has nowadays become more widely available, certain barriers to treatment may explain the low levels of self-seeking in people with agoraphobia."

"In addition, the very nature of agoraphobia, which may include fears of leaving the house and using public transport, may make it even more difficult for such population to actively seek professional help. In order to overcome such barriers, effective interventions that are easily accessible and do not require therapist face-to-face contact should be

#### 2a-ii) Scientific background, rationale: What is known about the (type of) system

Scientific background, rationale: What is known about the (type of) system that is the object of the study (be sure to discuss the use of similar systems for other conditions/diagnoses, if appropiate), motivation for the study, i.e. what are the reasons for and what is the context for this specific study, from which stakeholder viewpoint is the study performed, potential impact of findings [2]. Briefly justify the choice of the comparator.

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#### Does your paper address subitem 2a-ii? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"One promising mode of delivering computerised interventions are mobile phones, because of their relatively low cost and widespread use [24]. Since users carry their mobile devices with them in almost any situation, mobile phones, and particularly smartphones, might facilitate engagement with exposure exercises in the users' natural environments. Although mobile applications ("apps") have been tested for a number of conditions such as unipolar depression [25], borderline personality disorder and substance abuse [26], to date there is no study

# 2b) In INTRODUCTION: Specific objectives or hypotheses

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 2b? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The primary objective was to examine whether an agoraphobiaspecific intervention is more effective than a generic, anxietyrelated intervention. A secondary aim was also to assess the level of engagement with these interventions and the feasibility of conducting such a trial online."

### **METHODS**

# 3a) Description of trial design (such as parallel, factorial) including allocation ratio

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 3a? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information

not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The study was a web-based, assessor-blind, parallel-group Randomised Controlled Trial with an active control group. Participants were individually randomised (ratio 1:1) to either the treatment group or control group at baseline and were given equal amount of time to complete each intervention."

# 3b) Important changes to methods after trial commencement (such as eligibility criteria), with reasons

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 3b? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

No changes to methods were made after trial commencement.	
	//

#### 3b-i) Bug fixes, Downtimes, Content Changes

Bug fixes, Downtimes, Content Changes: ehealth systems are often dynamic systems. A description of changes to methods therefore also includes important changes made on the intervention or comparator during the trial (e.g., major bug fixes or changes in the functionality or content) (5-iii) and other "unexpected events" that may have influenced study design such as staff changes, system failures/downtimes, etc. [2].

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#### Does your paper address subitem 3b-i?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

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### 4a) Eligibility criteria for participants

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 4a? \*

"Inclusion criteria

Participants needed to be adults (aged 18 or above) and identify themselves as suffering from agoraphobia. Participants also had to be willing and able to provide informed consent to participate in the trial. No diagnostic check was used, as the aim was to recruit a community sample that would reflect the nature of the population which would use the applications in a real world setting, where no screening or check would be required.

#### 4a-i) Computer / Internet literacy

Computer / Internet literacy is often an implicit "de facto" eligibility criterion - this should be explicitly clarified.

#### Does your paper address subitem 4a-i?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

#### 4a-ii) Open vs. closed, web-based vs. face-to-face assessments:

Open vs. closed, web-based vs. face-to-face assessments: Mention how participants were recruited (online vs. offline), e.g., from an open access website or from a clinic, and clarify if this was a purely web-based trial, or there were face-to-face components (as part of the intervention or for assessment), i.e., to what degree got the study team to know the participant. In online-only trials, clarify if participants were quasi-anonymous and whether having multiple identities was possible or whether technical or logistical measures (e.g., cookies, email confirmation, phone calls) were used to detect/prevent these.

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#### Does your paper address subitem 4a-ii? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Participants were always contacted via email. Initially, those who expressed interest in participating followed a link to the online information sheet and consent form, which outlined the eligibility criteria and information about the trial. Through consenting to participate and answering a series of questions, participants confirmed that they met the criteria and understood the purpose of the study. Participants also provided their emails and names, though the latter was optional. Participant codes were then assigned to those who consented and

#### 4a-iii) Information giving during recruitment

Information given during recruitment. Specify how participants were briefed for recruitment and in the informed consent procedures (e.g., publish the informed consent documentation as appendix, see also

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"The questionnaire was administered online in a self-report format at baseline, midpoint and endpoint of the trial. "
"Completion of the interventions was assessed in the short online

surveys that were sent weekly, by asking participants if they have used the app, how much time they used it over the past week and how many sessions they have completed. "

#### 4b-ii) Report how institutional affiliations are displayed

•	CONSORT-EHEALTH (V 1.6.1) - Submission/Publication Form
with prestigious hospitals or univ	ns are displayed to potential participants [on ehealth media], as affiliations versities may affect volunteer rates, use, and reactions with regards to an — describe only if this may bias results)
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indicate direct quotes from your	s from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information thy the item is not applicable/relevant for your study
5-ii) Describe the history/deve	
	nt process of the application and previous formative evaluations (e.g.,

focus groups, usability testing), as these will have an impact on adoption/use rates and help with interpreting results.

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5-iii) Revisions and updating	
(and comparator, if applicable) evaluated, or c during the evaluation process, or whether the	late and/or version number of the application/intervention lescribe whether the intervention underwent major changes development and/or content was "frozen" during the trial. feeds or changing content which may have an impact on the d events see item 3b).
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5-iv) Quality assurance methods	
	hods to ensure accuracy and quality of information provided
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#### 5-v) Ensure replicability by publishing the source code, and/or providing screenshots/screencapture video, and/or providing flowcharts of the algorithms used

Ensure replicability by publishing the source code, and/or providing screenshots/screen-capture video, and/or providing flowcharts of the algorithms used. Replicability (i.e., other researchers should in principle

be able to replicate the stud	y) is	a ha	allm	ark	of s	cientific re	porting.		
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5-vi) Digital preservation Digital preservation: Provide disappear over the course of webcitation.org, and/or pub behind login screens cannot be served.	f the lishi	e yea ng tl	ars; a	also ourc	mal e co	ke sure the ode or scre	intervent enshots/v	ion is arch videos alo	nived (Internet Archive, ongside the article). As page
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#### 5-vii) Access

Access: Describe how participants accessed the application, in what setting/context, if they had to pay (or were paid) or not, whether they had to be a member of specific group. If known, describe how participants obtained "access to the platform and Internet" [1]. To ensure access for editors/reviewers/readers, consider to provide a "backdoor" login account or demo mode for reviewers/readers to explore the application (also important for archiving purposes, see vi).

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Does your paper address subitem 5-vii? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Participants received invites for the apps, which were available to use for free. Emails also contained links to weekly surveys on app usage and to questionnaires, description of the specific survey/questionnaire. links to the calendar and the main website of the trial, information about the upcoming survey, as well as useful contact details."

"Participants were also informed at the beginning of the trial that when they completed the intervention, they would receive a link to download the app they did not receive for free, as a reward for taking part and an

#### 5-viii) Mode of delivery, features/functionalities/components of the intervention and comparator, and the theoretical framework

Describe mode of delivery, features/functionalities/components of the intervention and comparator, and the theoretical framework [6] used to design them (instructional strategy [1], behaviour change techniques, persuasive features, etc., see e.g., [7, 8] for terminology). This includes an in-depth description of the content (including where it is coming from and who developed it) [1]," whether [and how] it is tailored to individual circumstances and allows users to track their progress and receive feedback" [6]. This also includes a description of communication delivery channels and - if computer-mediated communication is a component - whether communication was synchronous or asynchronous [6]. It also includes information on presentation strategies [1], including page design principles, average amount of text on pages, presence of hyperlinks to other resources, etc. [1].

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#### Does your paper address subitem 5-viii? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The treatment app was "Agoraphobia Free" (Version 0.8), recently developed by HeLP Ltd. for the treatment of agoraphobia, and this was the first time that it was evaluated. The app was a game-based interactive intervention, with three-dimensional characters and situations that simulate real-life environments. Specifically, the app presented a case example of a virtual character who suffered from agoraphobia. The user was required to guide her, through the help of the virtual therapist, to complete the different therapeutic tasks. Those tasks were based on

#### 5-ix) Describe use parameters

Describe use parameters (e.g., intended "doses" and optimal timing for use). Clarify what instructions or recommendations were given to the user, e.g., regarding timing, frequency, heaviness of use, if any, or was the intervention used ad libitum.

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#### Does your paper address subitem 5-ix?

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5-x) Clarify the level of Clarify the level of huma		ealth professionals, also technical assista	ınce) iı
the e-intervention or as o well as "type of assistan medium by which the as human involvement requ	co-intervention (detail number and e ce offered, the timing and frequenc sistance is delivered". It may be ne	expertise of professionals involved, if any by of the support, how it is initiated, and the ecessary to distinguish between the level furman involvement required for a routine	, as ne
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5-xi) Report any prom	ots/reminders used		
Report any prompts/rem the application, what trig	ninders used: Clarify if there were p	rompts (letters, emails, phone calls, SMS) be necessary to distinguish between the	to us
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CONSORT-EHEALTH (V 1.6.1) - Submission/Publication Form

07/09/2017

Describe any co-interventions (incl. training/support): Clearly state any interventions that are provided in addition to the targeted eHealth intervention, as ehealth intervention may not be designed as stand-alone intervention. This includes training sessions and support [1]. It may be necessary to distinguish between the level of training required for the trial, and the level of training for a routine application outside of a RCT setting (discuss under item 21 - generalizability.



#### Does your paper address subitem 5-xii? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"No training, supervision or guidance was offered before or during the trial, and only a basic description of each app was provided. Any questions participants had regarding the app or any technical issues they encountered were resolved through email."

## 6a) Completely defined pre-specified primary and secondary outcome measures, including how and when they were assessed

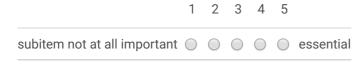
#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 6a? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The primary outcome was the severity of agoraphobic and panic symptoms, measured by the Panic and Agoraphobia Scale, or "PAS" [27]. The questionnaire was administered online in a self-report format at baseline, midpoint (6 weeks) and endpoint (12 weeks) of the trial. Reminders were emailed to those who did not reply to the questionnaires before the pre-specified deadline. Participants rated the symptoms they experienced in the previous week on a 5-point scale. The questionnaire comprises 14 items, though only 13 of those are used

#### 6a-i) Online questionnaires: describe if they were validated for online use and apply CHERRIES items to describe how the questionnaires were designed/deployed

If outcomes were obtained through online questionnaires, describe if they were validated for online use and apply CHERRIES items to describe how the questionnaires were designed/deployed [9].



#### Does your paper address subitem 6a-i?

Copy and paste relevant sections from manuscript text

5a-ii) Describe whether and how "use" (including intensity of use/dosage) was defined/measured/monitored
Describe whether and how "use" (including intensity of use/dosage) was defined/measured/monitored (logins, logfile analysis, etc.). Use/adoption metrics are important process outcomes that should be reported in any ehealth trial.
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6a-iii) Describe whether, how, and when qualitative feedback from participants was obtained Describe whether, how, and when qualitative feedback from participants was obtained (e.g., through emails,
reedback forms, interviews, focus groups).
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sopy and paste relevant sections from manuscript text
6b) Any changes to trial outcomes after the trial

CONSORT-EHEALTH (V 1.6.1) - Submission/Publication Form

# commenced, with reasons

Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 6b? \*

07/09/2017

CONSORT-EHEALTH (V 1.6.1) - Submission/Publication Form
Not applicable as no changes were made to trial outcomes after the trial commenced.
7a) How sample size was determined
NPT: When applicable, details of whether and how the clustering by care provides or centers was addressed
7a-i) Describe whether and how expected attrition was taken into account when calculating the sample size
Describe whether and how expected attrition was taken into account when calculating the sample size.
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Does your paper address subitem 7a-i?  Copy and paste relevant sections from manuscript title (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study
7b) When applicable, explanation of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines
and stopping guidennes
Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 7b? *  Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study  Not applicable.

# 8a) Method used to generate the random allocation sequence

NPT: When applicable, how care providers were allocated to each trial group

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 8a? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"A random computer-generated sequence was used to randomise participants in the two intervention groups. The random allocation sequence was retrieved from a website which generates truly random numbers (Random.org), by a person outside the research team (DP). "

## 8b) Type of randomisation; details of any restriction (such as blocking and block size)

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 8b? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Block randomisation was applied to ensure equal numbers of participants in each group (ratio 1:1). "

9) Mechanism used to implement the random allocation sequence (such as sequentially numbered containers), describing any steps taken to conceal the sequence until interventions were assigned

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 9? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The allocation of participants to intervention groups was automatically performed by a formula on Excel using the random number sequence, and was coordinated by another contact (AC), who was not a member of the research team. The random sequence and the allocation of participants to groups were concealed from research staff throughout the trial, as they. AC sent emails to participants containing the link to the assigned app after they had returned the baseline questionnaire. "

10) Who generated the random allocation sequence, who enrolled participants, and who assigned participants to interventions

Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 10? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The random allocation sequence was retrieved from a website which generates truly random numbers (Random.org), by a person outside the research team (DP). Block randomisation was applied to ensure equal numbers of participants in each group (ratio 1:1). The allocation of participants to intervention groups was automatically performed by a formula on Excel using the random number sequence, and was coordinated by another contact (AC), who was not a member of the research team. The random sequence and the allocation of participants

## 11a) If done, who was blinded after assignment to interventions (for example, participants, care providers, those assessing outcomes) and how

NPT: Whether or not administering co-interventions were blinded to group assignment

#### 11a-i) Specify who was blinded, and who wasn't

Specify who was blinded, and who wasn't. Usually, in web-based trials it is not possible to blind the participants [1, 3] (this should be clearly acknowledged), but it may be possible to blind outcome assessors, those doing data analysis or those administering co-interventions (if any).

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#### Does your paper address subitem 11a-i? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The trial was assessor-blinded, as researchers were blind to treatment allocation throughout the trial and during the statistical analysis. This was achieved by having a person outside the research team (AC) to manage treatment allocation and personal communications with the participants. Any questions or comments made in the surveys were forwarded from AC to research staff excluding any participant details or codes. This was to ensure that the researchers remained blinded to treatment allocation, as some comments contained information about

#### 11a-ii) Discuss e.g., whether participants knew which intervention was the "intervention of interest" and which one was the "comparator"

Informed consent procedures (4a-ii) can create biases and certain expectations - discuss e.g., whether participants knew which intervention was the "intervention of interest" and which one was the "comparator".



#### Does your paper address subitem 11a-ii?

# 11b) If relevant, description of the similarity of interventions

(this item is usually not relevant for ehealth trials as it refers to similarity of a placebo or sham intervention to a active medication/intervention)

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 11b? \*

07/09/2017

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Table 1 compares the two apps by showing which components/exercises were present in each. Although some components were common in both apps, in "Agoraphobia Free" they were specifically tailored to agoraphobia. In "Stress Free" the exercises addressed stress and anxiety in general without referring to agoraphobia. The two apps were matched for the number of sessions required and time to complete the interventions (minimum: 6 weeks, maximum: 12 weeks). "

# 12a) Statistical methods used to compare groups for primary and secondary outcomes

NPT: When applicable, details of whether and how the clustering by care providers or centers was addressed

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 12a? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"A linear mixed model was used to analyse the data, with a random effect of participant, and fixed effects of time (Baseline, Midpoint, Endpoint), group (Agoraphobia Free and Stress Free), and the interaction between time and group. The estimated baseline PAS score was constrained to be identical in the two groups, thus adjusting for baseline and allowing the relationship between baseline and follow up scores to differ at each time-point. Another advantage of this statistical method is that the data from all participants contribute to the analysis,

#### 12a-i) Imputation techniques to deal with attrition / missing values

Imputation techniques to deal with attrition / missing values: Not all participants will use the intervention/comparator as intended and attrition is typically high in ehealth trials. Specify how participants who did not use the application or dropped out from the trial were treated in the statistical analysis (a complete case analysis is strongly discouraged, and simple imputation techniques such as LOCF may also be problematic [4]).

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Does vour paper addres	ss subitem 12a-i?
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Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

The statistical method used (linear mixed model analysis) makes use of incomplete data in a less biased way than other data imputation methods. "Another advantage of this statistical method is that the data from all participants contribute to the analysis, even if there is a substantial amount of missing data at follow-up [37]. '

## 12b) Methods for additional analyses, such as subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 12b? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"A planned secondary completers' analysis was conducted using the same data analytic strategy as the ITT analysis. This analysis included only those participants who were identified as intervention completers."

## X26) REB/IRB Approval and Ethical Considerations [recommended as subheading under "Methods"] (not a CONSORT item)

X26-i) Comment on ethics committee approval

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#### Does your paper address subitem X26-i?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

#### x26-ii) Outline informed consent procedures

Outline informed consent procedures e.g., if consent was obtained offline or online (how? Checkbox, etc.?), and what information was provided (see 4a-ii). See [6] for some items to be included in informed consent

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### **RESULTS**

# 13a) For each group, the numbers of participants who were randomly assigned, received intended treatment, and were analysed for the primary outcome

NPT: The number of care providers or centers performing the intervention in each group and the number of patients treated by each care provider in each center

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 13a? \*

"In the first round 153 participants consented to participate, and 17 additional participants were recruited in the second round. The procedure following recruitment was the same in both samples. Figure 1 shows how the total sample of 170 participants progressed through the trial."

The specific numbers of participants randomised, receiving intended treatment and analysed are shown in the flow diagram.

## 13b) For each group, losses and exclusions after randomisation, together with reasons

Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 13b? (NOTE: Preferably, this is shown in a CONSORT flow diagram) \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"The remaining 142 who completed the PAS were sent their allocated intervention. Six participants could not download the app on their device, despite efforts to resolve the technical issues. After baseline, 39 participants did not want to continue with the trial and dropped out, while 29 participants did not reply to emails and did not complete the questionnaires. All participants who provided baseline data were included in the analysis. "

A CONSORT flow diagram is also included.

#### 13b-i) Attrition diagram

Strongly recommended: An attrition diagram (e.g., proportion of participants still logging in or using the intervention/comparator in each group plotted over time, similar to a survival curve) or other figures or tables demonstrating usage/dose/engagement.

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#### Does your paper address subitem 13b-i?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript or cite the figure number if applicable (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

## 14a) Dates defining the periods of recruitment and followup

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 14a? \*

"The first phase of recruitment started from September 2014 and ended in late February 2015, and the second phase started in March 2015 and concluded in April, 2015. In the first round 153 participants consented to participate, and 17 additional participants were recruited in the second round. The procedure following recruitment was the same in both samples. Data collection ended in June 2015. "

#### 14a-i) Indicate if critical "secular events" fell into the study period

Indicate if critical "secular events" fell into the study period, e.g., significant changes in Internet resources available or "changes in computer hardware or Internet delivery resources"

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#### Does your paper address subitem 14a-i?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

## 14b) Why the trial ended or was stopped (early)

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 14b? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

Not applicable.

## 15) A table showing baseline demographic and clinical characteristics for each group

NPT: When applicable, a description of care providers (case volume, qualification, expertise, etc.) and centers (volume) in each group

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 15? \*

"Table 2 shows the demographic and clinical baselin characteristics of the participants by group."	ne
	,

#### 15-i) Report demographics associated with digital divide issues

In ehealth trials it is particularly important to report demographics associated with digital divide issues, such as age, education, gender, social-economic status, computer/Internet/ehealth literacy of the participants, if known.



#### Does your paper address subitem 15-i? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Of the 142 participants who completed the baseline assessment, two did not give details of their age and gender (one from each treatment arm). Of the remaining 140, 118 (84.3%) were female and had a mean age of 39.7 years (SD=11.3). "

# 16) For each group, number of participants (denominator) included in each analysis and whether the analysis was by original assigned groups

#### 16-i) Report multiple "denominators" and provide definitions

Report multiple "denominators" and provide definitions: Report N's (and effect sizes) "across a range of study participation [and use] thresholds" [1], e.g., N exposed, N consented, N used more than x times, N used more than y weeks, N participants "used" the intervention/comparator at specific pre-defined time points of interest (in absolute and relative numbers per group). Always clearly define "use" of the intervention.



#### Does your paper address subitem 16-i? \*

"Table 3.Intention-to-treat analysis at endpoint (12-weeks) and midpoint (6 weeks), N=142."

"The same linear mixed -models analysis (N=142) was carried out using each PAS subscale as the dependent variable, in order to examine whether there was a difference between the two groups in terms of symptom dimensions. No significant interactions between group and time were found for any of those outcomes (all Ps<.05).

Within-group contrasts were conducted to examine the degree of

#### 16-ii) Primary analysis should be intent-to-treat

Primary analysis should be intent-to-treat, secondary analyses could include comparing only "users", with the appropriate caveats that this is no longer a randomized sample (see 18-i).

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#### Does your paper address subitem 16-ii?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

# 17a) For each primary and secondary outcome, results for each group, and the estimated effect size and its precision (such as 95% confidence interval)

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 17a? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Table 3 presents the estimated differences in PAS scores for the Agoraphobia Free group compared to the Stress Free group adjusted for baseline score at the two time points"

Tables 4 and 5 also present the results of secondary analyses (Difference, P value and precision).

#### 17a-i) Presentation of process outcomes such as metrics of use and intensity of use

In addition to primary/secondary (clinical) outcomes, the presentation of process outcomes such as metrics of use and intensity of use (dose, exposure) and their operational definitions is critical. This does not only refer to metrics of attrition (13-b) (often a binary variable), but also to more continuous exposure metrics such as "average session length". These must be accompanied by a technical description how a metric like a "session" is defined (e.g., timeout after idle time) [1] (report under item 6a).

1 2 3 4 5 subitem not at all important O O O essential

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## 17b) For binary outcomes, presentation of both absolute and relative effect sizes is recommended

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 17b? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms. or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

not in the ma, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable, relevant for your
Not applicable - no binary outcomes reported.
,

# 18) Results of any other analyses performed, including subgroup analyses and adjusted analyses, distinguishing pre-specified from exploratory

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 18? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Differences in completers' symptom severity between the two intervention groups were examined. A linear mixed model was produced, with random effect of participant, and fixed effects of time (Baseline, Midpoint, Endpoint), group (Agoraphobia Free and Stress Free) and the interaction between time and group. In line with the ITT analysis, there were no significant differences between the two groups at Endpoint or Midpoint, as shown in Table 5. The within-group changes at each follow-up time point compared to baseline were significant in both groups (All Ps <.001)."

#### 18-i) Subgroup analysis of comparing only users

A subgroup analysis of comparing only users is not uncommon in ehealth trials, but if done, it must be stressed that this is a self-selected sample and no longer an unbiased sample from a randomized trial (see 16-iii).

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7	CONSORT-EHEALTH (V 1.6.1) - Submission/Publication Form
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commente	rticipants (Agoraphobia Free: n=3, Stress Free: n=4) ed that certain app components were mildly stressful (e.g. the
	games, background music). There were no reported adverse perienced as a result of either intervention. Seven participants
commente	ed that the Agoraphobia Free app was confusing to follow at
treatment	ints. Another participant explained that they could not use the app as much as they wanted to because they suffered from
depression	n and did not feel motivated."
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*	de privacy breaches, technical problems  acy breaches, technical problems. This does not only include physical "harm" to participants,
but also inc	idents such as perceived or real privacy breaches [1], technical problems, and other /unintended incidents. "Unintended effects" also includes unintended positive effects [2].
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Does your	paper address subitem 19-i?
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#### 19-ii) Include qualitative feedback from participants or observations from staff/researchers

Include qualitative feedback from participants or observations from staff/researchers, if available, on strengths and shortcomings of the application, especially if they point to unintended/unexpected effects or uses. This includes (if available) reasons for why people did or did not use the application as intended by the developers.

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#### to use and yielded similar completion rates. Moreover, completers of either intervention showed marked improvements in symptom severity, with a ten-point drop in the PAS at endpoint compared to baseline in the

Agoraphobia Free did not improve more than those who received the Stress Free app. Both groups showed reductions in symptom severity over time that were statistically significant, but those reductions seemed to be equivalent across the two groups. Both treatment apps were safe

22-ii) Highlight unanswered new questions, suggest future research

1 2 3 4 5 subitem not at all important O O O essential

Highlight unanswered new questions, suggest future research.

Does your	paper	address	subitem	22-ii?
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Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

## 20) Trial limitations, addressing sources of potential bias, imprecision, and, if relevant, multiplicity of analyses

#### 20-i) Typical limitations in ehealth trials

Typical limitations in ehealth trials: Participants in ehealth trials are rarely blinded. Ehealth trials often look at a multiplicity of outcomes, increasing risk for a Type I error. Discuss biases due to non-use of the intervention/usability issues, biases through informed consent procedures, unexpected events.

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#### Does your paper address subitem 20-i? \*

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to conclude whether the improvements observed were not because of natural recovery processes or factors other than the intervention. Although a waitlist control group would be a necessary addition in a future trial in order to clearly establish treatment efficacy, the primary focus of this study was to demonstrate whether a disorder-specific mobile-based intervention is warranted in the treatment of agoraphobic symptoms, compared to a more generic approach addressing anxiety.

## 21) Generalisability (external validity, applicability) of the trial findings

NPT: External validity of the trial findings according to the intervention, comparators, patients, and care providers or centers involved in the trial

#### 21-i) Generalizability to other populations

Generalizability to other populations: In particular, discuss generalizability to a general Internet population, outside of a RCT setting, and general patient population, including applicability of the study results for other organizations

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#### Does your paper address subitem 21-i?

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information

### OTHER INFORMATION

### 23) Registration number and name of trial registry

#### Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 23? \*

Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

"Trial Registration: The trial registration number is ISRCTN98453199."

## 24) Where the full trial protocol can be accessed, if available

Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 24? \*

Cite a Multimedia Appendix, other reference, or copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study  Not available.
25) Sources of funding and other support (such as supply
of drugs), role of funders
Does your paper address CONSORT subitem 25? * Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study
"The authors would like to thank Dr Rebecca Jones, Senior Statistician at University College London, who provided statistical advice; Ana Cavero for her help and support of the project, as well as Kieron Kirkland and Kathy Marcham from Nominet Trust (funding body) for their support during the development of Agoraphobia Free."
X27) Conflicts of Interest (not a CONSORT item)
X27-i) State the relation of the study team towards the system being evaluated In addition to the usual declaration of interests (financial or otherwise), also state the relation of the study team towards the system being evaluated, i.e., state if the authors/evaluators are distinct from or identical with the developers/sponsors of the intervention.
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Does your paper address subitem X27-i?
Copy and paste relevant sections from the manuscript (include quotes in quotation marks "like this" to indicate direct quotes from your manuscript), or elaborate on this item by providing additional information not in the ms, or briefly explain why the item is not applicable/relevant for your study

## About the CONSORT EHEALTH checklist

As a result of using this checklist, did you make changes in your manuscript? \*

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<ul><li>yes, minor chang</li></ul>	es			
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