

## **Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Balloon Kyphoplasty in malignant spinal fractures: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 29 April 2009

**Reviewer:** M Nelcy Rodriguez

### **Reviewer's report:**

. Major Cpmplsory Revisions:

1. Did the authors of this study contact other authors about the work done regarding the research question and if not, why?
2. It is necessary to make a clear statement about the methods of dealing with unpublished studies
3. Event here is said that "the possibility of bias in the studies was evaluated using publisher guidelines for systematic reviews", it will be necessary the report of what type of bias were considered and how were evaluated.
4. It will be very useful to know what was the reason to use the random effects model for meta-analysis.
5. It will be also useful if there is a clarification about what sensitivity analysis to explore statistical heterogeneity was choosed and not use other method.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interest