Reviewer's report

Title: Assessment of the Feasibility of High-Concentration Capsaicin Patches in the Pain Unit of a Tertiary Hospital for a Population of Mixed Refractory Peripheral Neuropathic Pain Syndromes in Non-Diabetic Patients

Version: 6 Date: 16 June 2014

Reviewer: Michael Serpell

Reviewer's report:

Much improved from first draft.
Still requires revisions;

1) The authors have STILL not been clear on how long the LA is applied to the skin prior to qutenza application.
The Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) for Qutenza used to state (the period when this audit was performed) that Local anaesthetic be applied for 60 mins (only 30 min for feet)
The total time of the procedure (the "monitoring" time of 105 min is less than this)
My calculations from the RESULTs section are 9 min preparation time, 60 min LA exposure time, 60 min Qutenza = 129 min. So I ask, how is your total time only 105 mins?
If you apply the LA for less than 60 state it clearly.
The New SPC state that LA application can now be omitted, which will reduce procedure time, so can you also comment on how this could improve turnover in the clinic.

2) As your paper explores a practical method for utilization of Qutenza ad hoc on an individual case by case manner, can you discuss the merits of this over grouping patients together (as a group of say 3 to 6 patients) and doing the procedure in an allocated treatment session.

Minor revisions
Table 1. Misspelling of Opioid remains in several boxes. Lidocaine Infusion is more conventional compared to Perfusion

Subject to the above corrections, I would be happy for publication