Reviewer's report

Title: Bayesian model selection techniques as decision support for shaping a statistical analysis plan of a clinical trial: An example from a vertigo Phase III study with longitudinal count data as primary endpoint

Version: 1 Date: 16 June 2012

Reviewer: Getachew Dagne

Reviewer's report:

The authors have successfully responded to my earlier comments and suggestions.
There is, however, a minor correction which I would like them to address. On page 6 below Equation 1, "In a Bayesian framework all parameters are treated as random variables; however, for the sake of convenience, we refer to beta as fixed effects ..." The phrase "fixed effects" is contradictory to the idea of all parameters being random in the Bayesian context. It is better to replace the phrase by population-level parameters (beta) as compared individual-level parameters.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.