Reviewer's report

**Title:** Is Google Scholar Ready as a Tool for Systematic Literature Retrieval: Relative Recall and Precision Searching Studies for Systematic Reviews

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 18 August 2013

**Reviewer:** Sandra De Groote

**Reviewer's report:**

Discretionary Revisions
In general I think the article can be tightened up. It seemed to repetitive at times. It would be helpful to define or illustrate precision and recall early in the paper. You read for a while wondering what specifically is being studied although you do eventually figure it out. Its not really stated until pg 17.

In the results, it would be useful to refer to references as GS scholar reference/results and Cochrane references vs what is currently in the paper. For example instead of saying "found included reference" say references included in a Cochrane article and also found in GS and "all included references " say all references included in a Cochrane article. It becomes hard to follow otherwise the source of the references - GS or Cochrane.

Minor Essential Revisions
Spelling of "relative" pg 17, paragraph after Example 3 - -missing an "e"
Also directly under Example 3 - Sentence "it was taken care to limit the complete search expression to 256 characters". Its not a well formed sentence -- perhaps instead "Care was taken to limit the complete search...."

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.