Reviewer’s report

Title: Calculation of NNTs in RCTs with time-to-event outcomes: A literature review

Version: 2 Date: 15 May 2008

Reviewer: Jorgen Nexoe

Reviewer's report:

Calculation of NNT in RCTs with time-to-event outcomes: A literature review.

In general I find the authors’ response to my initial comments satisfactory.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

When you end up concluding that there is much room for improvement in the application of the NNT to present results of randomized trials and the utility of NNT is controversial, I think that at least a brief discussion of whether it is sensible to use this measure is compulsory. However, I will leave that to the discretion of the editor.

Minor Compulsory Revisions:

On page 5 the sentence “We agree that in the case of continuous treatments one should be careful if a cost-effectiveness analysis should be made on the basis of NNTs” seems to be misplaced. Should rather be in the discussion or perhaps omitted.

In the abstract “…calculation off NNTs…” should rather be “…calculation of NNTs”

On page 8 line 14 “possible” should be “possibly”.

A thorough proof-reading is recommended.

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