Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Oral vitamin B12 for patients suspected of subtle cobalamin deficiency: a multicenter pragmatic randomized controlled trial

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 28 November 2010

**Reviewer:** Marta Ebbing

**Reviewer’s report:**

This trial was poorly designed and implemented.

The results from the laboratory analyses on change in MMA, homocysteine and cobalamin levels are of limited interest, because well designed, larger published studies have provided more sound evidence.

The results from the clinical evaluation of possible change in symptoms and signs of cobalamin deficiency do not prove anything. First, the trial was not statistically powered to demonstrate such changes. Second, using 16 different study centers to test 50 patients aged between 18 and 91 years, made the clinical testing extremely prone to measurement errors.

**Level of interest:** An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**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 in relation to this manuscript.