Reviewer's report

Title: Buprenorphine versus dihydrocodeine for opiate detoxification in primary care: A randomised controlled trial [ISRCTN07752728]

Version: 1 Date: 30 September 2006

Reviewer: magi farre

Reviewer's report:

General
It's a randomized, non-blind trial to evaluate the efficacy of two drugs in opioid detoxification. The trial was carried out in a primary care setting.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
1. It is an open trial (non-blind). Expectancies and other factors may influence the results.
2. Recruitment was incomplete. A lack of statistical power can exist. Is it a false negative study?
3. Planned dosage and number of detoxification days for each drug should be described in methods.
4. Dose equivalency between buprenorphine and dihydrocodeine should be provided

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
5. What dihydrocodeine preparation was used? rapid or slow release?
6. Other drugs were prescribed?

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests'