Reviewer’s report

Title: Functional illness in primary care: dysfunction versus disease

Version: 1 Date: 29 December 2007

Reviewer: Samuel F Dworkin

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript is very well organized. It presents, in clear and well-written fashion, the rationale for employing a biopsychosocial approach to the diagnosis and management of all patients presenting to a primary care setting in the pursuit of treatment. The concept is now well established in principle, at least, and the biopsychosocial model forms the basis of most medical education in the U.S. and Europe, at least. However, the cultural lag known to exist between providing an evidence-based rationale for managing patients in primary care and its actual implementation can be unduly long so that the present manuscript is a valuable contribution to the scientific literature directed at primary care health providers.

What next?: Accept without revision

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 have no competing interests