Reviewer's report

Title: Efficacy and tolerability of alpha galactosidase in treating gas-related symptoms in children: a randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled trial.

Version: 3 Date: 1 February 2013

Reviewer: Anshu Srivastava

Reviewer's report:

Abstract:
In results or conclusion it should be mentioned ---“short term treatment “ with #-galactosidase. This is because therapy was given only for 2 weeks and we do not if the patients will continue to show the same response with continued therapy at this point of time.
Results and discussion
II paragraph discussion
The significant decrease of FPS-R score occurring in the active group and the marginal change in the placebo group provides the evidence of the efficacy of #-galactosidase. “The similar score values at end of treatment should be evaluated taking into account the apparent imbalance in the baseline FPS-R”.
This statement is not clear as this suggests that children in the #-galactosidase arm had higher baseline FPS-R score than those in the placebo arm. This is not expected in a RCT, so the authors should modify the table 1—characteristics of 2 groups of patients, include baseline symptoms apart from demography and check the p value between the two groups for all the demographic or symptom intensity or frequency data. If it is present, then it should be mentioned in the results.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
None