Reviewing report

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

**Version:** 4  **Date:** 9 May 2013

**Reviewer:** Bridget Southwell

**Reviewer’s report:**

Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors have responded to most of the questions from the reviewers well, however I would still like a little more detail added to the manuscript.

The results of the study are very borderline for significance. I think it is worth publishing but only if the data are clearly shown so that people can decide if they think it is worth pursuing.

The authors have modified table 1 and included ns for the p value. Please change this to list each p value.

Please add bloating to table 1 to give a context for table 3.

In the answer to question 3 reviewer 1, you have included a graph. please supply a figure legend to make it possible to understand the graph, please explain the symbols- which is pre and which is post. then it would be useful to add this to the manuscript.

Please add to the results section of the manuscript- how many patients in each group improved pain by more than 0.5 units, how many had pain worsen by more than 0.5 units. Then relate this to the improvement reported by the clinician at followup.

On page 4 line 21 and 22 - ‘The primary endpoint was reduction......Secondary endpoints were......’. The endpoint is when will the trial/study be considered to be finished. I think a reduction in FPS_R at the end of treatment compared to baseline is the ‘primary outcome measure’, The reduction in proportion of patients with relevant symptoms is the ‘secondary outcome measure’.

Minor Essential Revisions

Page 8 line 7 insert ‘of’- ...identify groups ‘of’ patients who are more likely to respond.....

Page 8 line 8, change ‘in which’ to ‘in whom’.

Page 8 line 8, add commas- ......recognise children in whom, based on the medical history, food appears......

Page 9 line 7 add ‘s’ after ‘tend’

**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:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.