Reviewer's report

Title: In-vivo visualisation of the anatomical structures related to the acupuncture points Dai mai and Shen mai by MRI. A single-case pilot study.

Version: Date: 10 August 2006

Reviewer: Helene Langevin

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors have mostly addressed the comments. However, some problems remain with the figures and text (see below)

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

The figures are still unclear. In Figures 3-5, does the intersection of red and blue lines indicate the estimated position of the needle tip? This should be stated more clearly. In Figure 7 the text refers to "the artefact of the tip of the needle" but it is not clear whether the arrow indicates the tip or just the general needle location.

The last paragraph of the discussion (page 8) should be deleted, since specific effect of "vision-related" acupuncture points (compared with non-acupuncture control points) on the visual cortex have not been demonstrated. The original article cited by the authors (reference 13) has been retracted (Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2006 Jul 5;103(27):10527. Epub 2006 Jun 21).

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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)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I do not have competing interests