Reviewer’s report

Title: Corticosteroid and antiviral therapy for Bell palsy: A network meta-analyses

Version: 1 Date: 28 July 2010

Reviewer: Elias Zintzaras

Reviewer’s report:

- In Abstract, improve the Results section.
- Egger’s test do not really assess publication bias (see Lau BMJ).
- Provide an explicit formula of the mixed effects model. In testing the treatments against the prednisolone (for example at 3 months), what was the d.f. for each term in the model, and how you tested the treatment effects (individual comparisons).
- Why random intercept and constant slope were adopted in the fixed effects model?
- Make clear how you tested discrepancy of treatment effect (was it a z-score)?
- In Table 3, check the number of subjects.
- The number of studies is very to obtain reliable results from the meta-regression.

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

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

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'