Reviewer’s report

Title: Long-term effectiveness and costs of a brief self-management intervention in women with pregnancy-related low back pain after delivery

Version: 2 Date: 11 April 2008

Reviewer: Mitchell Haas

Reviewer’s report:

It is important to determine the costs and effectiveness of care for low back pain. This trial compared a self-care program to “usual care” for postpartum women. Usual care included a choice of physiotherapy, guidance by a general practitioner, or no care. The project was generally conducted well and its contribution would be the study of a population for which there is little data. The authors have done an outstanding job in addressing reviewers’ comments. The design has been justified, and all aspects of the study clarified. The interpretation of study findings is consistent with the magnitude of outcomes and the level of statistical significance of group comparisons.

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions: None

Discretionary Revisions:

Global Perceived Effect is a secondary variable. However, the analysis of this variable could be consistent with the rest of the analysis if chi-square were replaced with an analysis that adjusted for baseline group differences such as logistic regression or another generalized linear model.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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 I have no competing interest.