Reviewer’s report

Title: What is the key issue in adherence evaluation of endocrine treatment of early breast cancer? - Methodological aspects of adherence evaluation

Version: 2 Date: 20 August 2012

Reviewer: Arnoud Templeton

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript has improved a lot after this review. The following points may still need to be addressed before publication:

- Title: The question raised is not answered.
- Introduction: Aromatase inhibitors have led to higher rates of recurrence free survival compared to tamoxifen and rather not to a "tremendous" reduction in breast cancer recurrence and their role would not be judged vial by many. Reference 2 is rather about compliance and not about the significance of aromatase inhibitors.
- Results: I find it difficult to understand how 6 patients without diagnosis could meet the selection criteria (Table 1), these patients should probably be excluded from the analysis.
- The issue of selection bias should be addressed and discussed, e.g. how many of the patients addressed declined to participate?
- Minor points: in the section results median is reported for treatment duration in table 1 mean. "Table, Figure" should always be written the same (Table or table), some typos should be addressed (e.g. Spearman instead of spearman, ng/mlm), unnecessary digits behind comma should be removed (e.g. table 1 65.00), table 1, primary surgical treatment --> numbers don't match lines, table 3: p=0.050* is not p<0.05, Figure 1: digits behind comma should be removed and units given.

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: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.