Reviewer's report

Title: Randomized controlled trial to evaluate the effects of ethyl-2-cyanoacrylate on pain intensity and quality of life in head and neck cancer patients suffering from cetuximab-induced rhabdages during radioimmunotherapy: The SUPPORT Trial

Version: 3 Date: 27 April 2013

Reviewer: Diana Steinmann

Reviewer's report:

The study protocol is well described and the study group considers a very important theme. I have some minor essential revisions only.

Some replications should be avoided:
The "Treatment schedule" replies the "Primary and Secondary objectives". All sentences between "The therapeutic response... and ...each institution" could be deleted.
The second part of the sentence with explanation of cross-over possibility is a replication too and should be deleted. The first part of the next sentence: "Since the primary endpoint..." is a replication, too.
The paragraph "Trial duration, Schedule and Follow-up" can be shortened and integrated into the "Treatment schedule".
The "Assessment of Efficacy Parameters" can be deleted. All aspects are written in "Primary and Secondary objectives".
"Analysis Populations" is a 1:1 replication of the first two sentences in "Statistical methods". The last sentence of "Analysis population" could be integrated into "Statistical methods".
The "Discussion" replies most aspects of "Introduction". It should be shortened or revised.

I also missed but some aspects in consideration of CONSORT guidelines:
Who enrolled participants, and who assigned participants to their groups?
Please describe the randomization procedure in detail.
Possibility of patients to drop out every time if they want and stopping rules, i.e. at toxic events were not described.

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 interests.