Reviewer’s report

Title: Psychological adjustment and quality of life in children and adolescents following open-heart surgery for congenital heart disease: a systematic review

Version: 2 Date: 23 October 2008

Reviewer: Lutz Goldbeck

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Editors,

thank you for the opportunity to review the revised ms.

The authors were successful with integrating the reviewers’ comments and suggestions in their recent version of the manuscript. Thus, the paper is significantly improved. As the authors demonstrate, there is still limited evidence of psychosocial outcome after open heart surgery, due to the heterogeneous literature and methodical shortcomings. This review emphasizes the need for more research in this important area. In absence of similar reviews of the literature and considering the need to draw the attention of pediatricians to psychosocial aspects of chronic heart diseases, I would strongly recommend this paper for publication.

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