Reviewer’s report

Title: Characteristics of martial art Injuries in a defined Canadian population: a descriptive epidemiological study

Version: 2 Date: 26 October 2010

Reviewer: Willy Pieter

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions

Introduction
Page 3
Martial Arts is a general term that describes the art of combat and self defense

Sorry I missed this before but you need a hyphen here: self-defense.

Results
Page 8
24.8% (73/294) people with protection sustained a severe injury,

24.8% (73/294) of people …

Please hyphenate (see below). Please check the rest of the text under Pattern 2 as well as the whole article.

Page 9
Pattern 1 –Falls and Throws
During a Taekwondo practice session, a 14 year old boy was…

...was treated without requiring any further follow up

b) Most falls did not require hospital admittance or any further follow up;

Pattern 2 – Weapons
A 40 year old man was practicing

Pattern 3 – Demonstrations and Tournaments
The black belt punched her partner forcefully, who was unable to properly ....

Discussion
Page 13
This study was unable to fully characterize the utility of protective devices such as helmets and mouth guards in preventing injuries, though other studies have suggested that they may be useful in reducing injuries in martial arts [19,20]

Please be aware of design issues with reference 20 that would preclude any conclusions about the effect of preventive measures. For more information see reference 14, pp. 256-257.

References
The publication date of reference 14 is 2009 and not 1994.

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