Reviewer's report

Title: The Implementation of a Community-Based Aerobic Walking Program for Mild to Moderate Knee Osteoarthritis: a Knowledge Translation Randomized Controlled Trial: Part I: The Uptake of the Ottawa Panel Clinical Practice Guidelines

Version: 1 Date: 8 May 2012

Reviewer: Enrique R. Soriano

Reviewer's report:

These are very interesting and well written manuscripts. I think that for readers it would be much better to collapse both manuscripts into one. It could be done if the introduction and discussions are shortened, by for example shortening the description of the assessing tools, etc.

1) In the results reported compliance was assessed in different ways in the three groups: Among the W and WB groups, by the number of attended walking sessions recorded by the exercise therapist and among the C group by logbooks, and this has been discussed in the limitation as a bias. However, as all the groups completed the logbooks it should be possible to compare compliance among groups using the logbooks in all groups. It would also be important to know how was the correlation between the attendance recorded by a therapist and the logbooks among those groups that completed both, as it can provide some information of the reliance we could have on logbooks as an assessment tool.

2) There is no mention in the discussion about the fact that patients received monetary compensation for attendance in the W and WB groups and for completion of the logbooks in the C group. Taking into account the very high dropout rate in this study with monetary compensation it would be good to have some speculations of the influence of that fact in the implementation of such programs.

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