Reviewer’s report

Title: Efficacy of a church-based lifestyle intervention programme to control high normal blood pressure and/or high normal blood glucose in church members: a randomized controlled trial in Pretoria, South Africa

Version: 3 Date: 23 April 2014

Reviewer: Mary Beth Weber

Reviewer’s report:

The following comments were not really addressed by the authors or raised other questions.

Major Compulsory Revisions

- The Background section jumps around a lot, making it very difficult to follow the authors’ arguments justifying the study. This has not really been corrected. The justification is still hard to follow.
- I was unsure after reading the background of the focus of this study – is it diabetes? Or metabolic syndrome? Cardiovascular risk factors? This section needs more focus. Again, some focus would be beneficial.
- The measures sections should be written as text or put in a table. Also, please provide a better description of methods to be used. Many are vague or not present (for example, there is no section on laboratory methods). The new text implies that testing may be done differently in different settings. How will that affect the results?

The data analysis plan is sufficiently described.

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: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.