Reviewer's report

Title: Comparing etoricoxib and celecoxib for preemptive analgesia for acute postoperative pain in patients undergoing arthroscopic anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction: A randomized controlled trial.

Version: 1 Date: 14 December 2009

Reviewer: Nikolaos Gougoulias

Reviewer's report:

There are issues regarding the use of the english language. If the authors attempt revision of the manuscript, I suggest they ask the assistance of somebody very fluent in written and spoken english.

My major concern is the fact that patients had spinal anaesthesia and the effects of preop NSAIDs regarding pain were assessed already in recovery. ACL surgery last probably no more than 90 mins. Was the time interval long enough to allow pain to be evident? The validity of the findings can be criticised because of this.

Most of the patients with ACL injury had an MVA: This is unusual. Was ACL damage isolated? I would have suspected some patients should have fractures and other ligament injuries.

I suggest the term 'rescue medication' should NOT be used.

Also the treatment protocol does not reflect the current trends in ACL reconstruction surgery (spinal anaesthesia, 48 hours drain in situ and hospital stay)

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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'