Reviewer’s report

Title: Efficacy of hypnosis/guided imagery in fibromyalgia syndrome - a systematic review and meta-analysis of controlled trials

Version: 2 Date: 12 April 2011

Reviewer: Miyuki Mizutani

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Please include the result of metaregression analyses in Conclusion in Abstract. “Further studies with better treatment quality and with adequate methodological quality…are necessary to clarify the efficacy of H/GI in FMS.”

2. It is inappropriate to delete the types of suggestion in Types of interventions. Suggestions are crucial component in hypnosis as it is mentioned in any definition of hypnosis and in the background in this review. It is impossible to discuss hypnosis without examining what kinds of suggestions are given. And it is quite appropriate in pain treatment to describe whether pain-related suggestions were given or not.

The fact is to be mentioned in the result that only one study did not use suggestions or images which were directly addressed to pain and that all other studies utilized pain related suggestions.

Others

3. In the previous manuscript, it was not clear how trials were judged as hypnosis or not. In the previous manuscript, “CTs with hypnosis and guided imagery with defined pain-related suggestion” were included. “Studies with relaxation only (without pain-related suggestions) were excluded in “Eligibility criteria”. Therefore I had to say something on this. But the fact was that the authors did not exclude studies with hypnosis/guided imagery without pain-related suggestions and wanted to examine the effects of hypnosis/guided imagery on the key symptoms of FMS regardless if pain-related suggestions were given or not. I think it is clear now.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.