Reviewer's report

Title: Image-guided versus blind corticosteroid injections in adults with shoulder pain: A systematic review

Version: 1 Date: 4 February 2011

Reviewer: Eric Hegedus

Reviewer's report:

The topic is an interesting one and worth doing. However, before this paper is worth an in-depth review, a major re-write is in order. I suggest the following:

1. Read the paper by Moher et al (BMJ August 2009) on PRISMA to learn how to structure a systematic review.

2. A complete re-write of the introduction is merited since the authors have not made a compelling argument for why this review is important (the review is important). They need to get deeper into the debate on guided vs unguided shoulder injections (see discussion section of Hegedus et al JSES 2010) and support your contention that guided is more costly with at least one citation. You then say that the conflicting evidence may come as a result of different study designs so you have decided to review RCT's to help shed light on the debate.

3. Methods section—Please see any number of works by Haynes RB on search strategies and either use the strategies or cite why you did not.

You have components of a solid review here but the organization will be greatly improved by the use of PRISMA.

The statistics look fine.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.