Reviewer’s report

Title: Efficacy of Perioperative Epidural Steroids in Lumbar Discectomy: A Review

Version: 1 Date: 19 March 2014

Reviewer: Saleh Baeesa

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. The authors reviewed the efficacy of intraoperative epidural application of steroids following lumbar discectomy. They should keep their review very clear by removing the word “preoperative” from the title and the text, as it gives the impression that steroids were applied in the period before, during, and after the surgical procedure.

2. The authors need to add in the inclusion that studies were included regardless of giving, or not, intravenous steroids in addition to epidural application of steroids, as they have included some studies were intravenous steroids were administered.

Discretionary Revisions:

1. It will be interesting to compare the subgroups of studies where patients received additional epidural and intravenous medication to those who did not to see if the result can be added to the conclusion.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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 interests.