Reviewer's report

Title: Neck-specific training with a cognitive behavioural approach compared with prescribed physical activity in patients with cervical radiculopathy: a protocol of a prospective randomised clinical trial.

Version: 2  Date: 1 April 2014

Reviewer: stephen may

Reviewer's report:

Page 4: delete last sentence first paragraph – does not really follow
Page 4: Anterior, Cervical Decompression and Fusion – do not need capitals
Page 5; first line: which consisted of......... (delete brackets)....................... in patients with cervical radiculopathy (delete – due to cervical disc disease).
Page 5; second paragraph – you mean trials not trails! (line 3)
Page 5; last sentence, better as follows: Because patients with cervical..............referral to a specialist clinic it is important to test these approaches and to compare them with the general recommendation, which is to stay physically active [3].
Page 6; first paragraph: It has been suggested that (repeated word) a structured physiotherapy program......................., but this has not yet been scientifically evaluated.
Page 6; second last line of introduction: need a gap between ‘ at 3’.
Page 7: reference for cervical extension test. For both tests provide data on reliability and validity.
Page 7: using a parametric t-test could be challenged for two reasons: VAS is ordinal data, as not a ‘true’ measurement, and as pain is being assessed between groups and over time. A non-parametric ANOVA is more appropriate.
Page 8; line 2: Flow chart
Page: who is the ‘test leader’
Page 8: .......‘serves as contact person’....... 
Page 8: Background data that.................
Page 8: Clinical measurements that ........... and balance [28, 29]. These measurements have good reliability and known reference data.
Page 11: last paragraph: ..............‘whereas in the second intervention they do not have’............
Page 12; Data analysis: all outcomes are non-parametric
Page 13: Many patients are sick-listed for long time periods.
Page 13: The current study aims to supplement knowledge as to optimal
Furthermore it may decrease the number of patients and thus reduce the.