Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk factors for development of non-specific musculoskeletal pain in preteens and early adolescents: A prospective 1-year follow-up study.

Version: Date: 19 March 2007

Reviewer: Dag Bruusgaard

Reviewer’s report:

General
A prospective study focusing on a few risk factors for developing traumatic and non-traumatic musculoskeletal pain. The study was conducted in 1995-1996.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1) The population is not general, but age restricted (p.4)
2) You use psychosomatic (p. 8) and somatic p. 10) for the same symptoms
3) The incidence is among pain free individuals. You have not reported new onset in the whole group (p. 10)
4) All facts in the discussion should have been presented in the results section (effect on daily activities, p.10, hypermobility, p. 13)
5) You can not rule out the possibility that day time tiredness is related to psychological stress as you do on page 13. Your separation between traumatic and non-traumatic might not be as valid as you think

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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