Reviewer’s report

Title: The influence of expectation on spinal manipulation induced hypoalgesia: an experimental study

Version: 2 Date: 12 November 2007

Reviewer: Peter H. Canter

Reviewer’s report:

General The absence of a control group in this study means that its findings are of dubious value. Expectations are only one of many non-specific effects operating in a clinical trial and during routine treatment and in the context of a clinical trial the negative expectation induced by allocation to a control group may well be the most important aspect of this particular category of non-specific effect. For this reason I cannot recommend publication in BMC.

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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)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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'