Reviewer's report

Title: Tramadol for premature ejaculation: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 3  Date: 2 November 2014

Reviewer: Ibrahim Abdel-Hamid

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

This is an interesting topic; however the following concerns should be addressed:

1. The authors omitted the inclusion of previous works on the topic in the introduction section (Glaring omissions), at least three articles: Yang et al. Urol Int. 2013;91(2):197-205; Wong et al. Urology. 2013 Jan;81(1):98-103; Wu et al. Urology. 2012 Sep;80(3):618-24. All are either systematic review and meta-analysis or systematic review only.

2. The authors mentioned in inclusion criteria that RCTs will be included, however the authors included low quality research in the analysis e.g. references 14 and 19, the first is a non-placebo controlled study and in the second it is not known how PE was diagnosed. This will jeopardize the results.

3. The leading author of one of the studies (ref. 22) has had three papers retracted for different reasons (statistical errors, failure by the lead author to verify the data contained in the study, and to provide evidence of the role of co-authors and their institutional affiliations). Is it wise to include and trust in his research to the degree to be included in meta-analysis? Looking at the reference list of this systematic review and meta-analysis, I can locate one of the retracted papers of that author (ref 18, that was retracted by British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology).

4. Still, the evidence consistently supports tramadol's efficacy in need of using the standard PE outcome measures.

Minor Essential Revisions

some spelling mistakes.

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:
None to be declared