Reviewer's report

Title: Comparison of the analgesic effects of a heat patch containing an iron chip with ibuprofen in primary dysmenorrhea: a randomized controlled trial

Version: 4 Date: 10 December 2011

Reviewer: Maria Luisa Gasparri

Reviewer's report:

Dear Author,

I appreciate the corrections made in this version. Before accepting the manuscript I have to suggest to investigate, into selecting patients, a subclinical (or not yet diagnosed) endometriosis, justifying a resistant pain. Furthermore, it is also important to consider, in exclusion criteria, an history of endometriosis and specify the reference reporting this rationale (Porpora MG, et al Fertil Steril. 2010 Feb;93(3):716-21), explaining that an history of endometriosis can justify pain also in patients who were surgically treated, both with eventual Oral estroprogestins after primary surgery and without adjuvant oral therapy post surgery (Muzii L et al J Minim Invasive Gynecol. 2011 Mar-Apr;18(2):173-8).

After these corrections, the paper could be accepted.

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

i declare that i have no competing interest