Reviewer's report

Title: Diagnostics and interventions in complementary and mainstream medicine

Version: 2 Date: 9 December 2009

Reviewer: Lesley Wye

Reviewer's report:

The authors have taken on board many of the made suggestions previously and
the paper is much better. Three points still concern me. The first is that the
standard of English could still be improved. For example, one paragraph reads:
"In acupuncture practices 200 regular trained physicians are working and
registered by the Netherlands Association for Acupuncture Physicians. Training
is also performed within three years. Every year of training existing around 20
days of training and exercise." In this short paragraph, I can find numerous
problems that make it confusing for the reader including fragmentary sentences,
repetition of the word 'training' twice in the final sentence, lack of clarity about
what 'regular trained' physicians are, inappropriate word choice of 'performed'
(could be takes place?) and 'existing' (could be consists?), inaccurate verb tense
etc. The second concern follows on, in that the paper needs to be proof read
more carefully as I found examples of missing brackets, commas etc. Third, I
appreciate that if the authors put in the p values, the tables will become bigger.
But the tables are currently laid out in portrait and this could possibly be
corrected by landscape. There is also a major difference between a p value of
0.05 and one of 0.001, and so to ensure credibility of results, I would urge the
authors to address this.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a
statistician.