Reviewer's report

Title: Homeopathy for mental fatigue: lessons from a randomized, triple blind, placebo-controlled cross-over clinical trial

Version: 3 Date: 7 May 2012

Reviewer: Michael Teut

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting manuscript, demonstrating the problems of developing trial designs for homeopathic interventions.

To my understanding the most important problems to be discussed are:

- Recruitment of healthy subjects, resulting in baseline values in a healthy "range". Did participants really suffer from mental fatigue?
- No homeopathic individualization of the remedy / therapy strategy
- Cross-over design / what is the wash-out time for Kalium phosphoricum (does anybody know that)?
- Why was only Kali phos tested and not the mentioned complex remedy (formula) for ADHD?

Major Compulsory Revisions

Abstract:
- I would not write about ADHD, as this is not a trial on ADHD, this information belongs into Background.
- You should better describe the sample (healthy, or also students with chronic diseases)
- At which time points was outcome measured?
- Report some concrete statistical results in abstract

Paper:
- I did not find a table with the statistical main results of groups/arms and comparisons? Please make sure that the reader can understand your statistics.

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.