Reviewer’s report

Title: A yoga intervention for diabetes risk reduction: A pilot randomized controlled trial

Version: 3 Date: 3 February 2014

Reviewer: Heidemarie Haller

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. In the method section, the authors describe that they have conducted an ITT analysis as suggested by the reviewers. However, they did not – because 3 participants who dropped out were excluded from analysis. But follow-up data of the 3 drop-outs have to be imputed and included in the final analysis. Method of imputation (last observation carried forward, multiple imputation methods, etc.) has to be described, too. Please calculate new statistics and add to the abstract that ITT analysis was used.

2. It remains ambiguous why the authors want to analyze data per-protocol by excluding the 6 borderline FBG participants! It reads as if these 6 participants were eligible at baseline (had FBG of >5.6 mmol/L) and “were later deemed ineligible based on borderline FBG”. In the case where their FBG changed during the intervention period a per-protocol analysis is not appropriate and should be omitted. In the case of including participants wrongly with not meeting the inclusion criteria already at baseline, the per-protocol analysis is meaningful. Please give more detailed/definite information about these 6 participants in the result section and rewrite the discussion passage: “Second, 6 participants who were enrolled and randomized were later deemed ineligible based on borderline FBG. The inclusion of these participants in the ITT analysis does not address our original research question about reducing diabetes risk among participants with FBG #5.6mmol/L, however we also included analysis from a per protocol analysis where these participants were excluded.”

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. Table 2: Please add whether the numbers following the means are SDs (standard deviations) or SEs (standard errors).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.