Reviewer’s report

Title: The prevalence, patterns of usage and people’s attitude towards complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) among the Indian community in Chatsworth, South Africa.

Version: 2 Date: 8 January 2004

Reviewer: George Lewith

Reviewer’s report:

General
Thanks very much for asking me to review this. Having read the article, I think it’s not necessarily original but it is a well constructed study which confirms and supports other work in this field. The work is therefore not new, but the questions and the methods of answering them are appropriate and well defined. The methodological detail is certainly adequate for the work to be replicated and the data appears to be sound and well controlled. I believe that the manuscript does adhere to the normal guidelines for data reporting and the discussion and conclusions are balanced and thoughtful. The writing is acceptable and the title and abstract clearly convey the essence of the paper. I feel that this adds to the field confirming other research. It is not fundamentally original but it is a good quality study and should certainly be published. I have no major problems with the way the study has been conducted or the conclusions drawn, so my view would just be to publish it pretty much as it is.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

What next?: Accept without revision

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No