Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of complementary and alternative medicine and self-tests by coronary heart disease patients.

Version: 2 Date: 17 February 2008

Reviewer: Wadie Najm

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for your responses. I remain unclear however on a few issues:

Major Compulsory Revisions

Your response to question #2 is still unclear. I appreciate that this is the first study looking at the use of CAM and Self-tests by this population and that the use of CAM is similar to the general UK population. However, the question was asking for comparison of the general demographics of your population to that of the UK to see if general conclusions could be drawn, otherwise the value of the results is of limited value.

I respect your response to question #3, however the data provided requires additional information to allow the reader any chance of drawing conclusions:

You indicate that 3 therapies were used (Homeopathy, Acupuncture and Chiropractic), however the total number of patients given is 12 (Under Results, subheading self management 1st paragraph, last sentence; Also under Discussion Paragraph 1, 3rd sentence) what did the other patients use? Based on your own reference #19 "The most commonly used therapies were herbal products (18%) and mind-body therapies (17%)" Were other therapies such as OTC Dietary Supplements, Vitamins, Mind-Body, spirituality, etc. explored?

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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 interests