Reviewer's report

Title: Knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding gemstone therapeutics in a selected adult population in Pakistan

Version: 6 Date: 13 May 2009

Reviewer: Sheila Greenfield

Reviewer's report:

Re authors' reponse to referees comments:-

Major compulsory revisions

1. The reference appears to have been removed

2. Reference 8 'The raison d'etre for opting for CAM includes dissatisfaction from (sic-should read dissatisfaction 'with')conventional medicine' the paper cited as reference 8 states that many turned to CAM because of this but does not say it is the main reason why people turn to CAM. The text therefore needs adapting.

3. Information regarding interviewers' impressions appears to have been removed from the end of the discussion, paragraph 3 p 19

4. This point appears to have been removed and paragraph 4 p19 states 'we did not ascertain the reason for which respondents were attending. '

5. Data in tables and table headings. It would be helpful if both numbers and % were included so that readers can properly interpret the results. As it stands these are confusing e.g. paragraph 2 p11 states that Table 3 provides details of belief variables, however the percentages quoted later in the paragraph are not shown in Table 3. This needs clarification and the text/tables need adapting.

Minor essential revisions

1. cross sectional has been removed from the first line of the methods

Discretionary revisions

the word novel has been removed from the strengths and limitations

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

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