Reviewer’s report

Title: Evidence-based ethics. What it should be and what it shouldn't

Version: 1 Date: 29 September 2008

Reviewer: David Hunter

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This is a good paper which clearly sets out it's aims and achieves it's objectives. It should be of great interest to those working in bioethics and successfully argues that the notion of evidence-based ethics is presently problematic.

I have only one suggestion of a Discretionary Revision
1. It would be good if the author highlighted the other danger of empirical ethics, ie reading the normative content directly from the (often weak) "evidence". It is not uncommon to read papers for example which canvass people's opinions and then conclude from those opinions "so we should do whatever the majority feel is right"

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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