Reviewer’s report

Title: Patient anxiety and concern as predictors for the perceived quality of treatment and patient reported outcome (PRO) in orthopaedic surgery

Version: 1 Date: 7 December 2011

Reviewer: Krista Howard

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. Statistical analysis -> Please provide a more thorough explanation of how the Random Effects Model will be used with this study. What variables are used as the independent and dependent variables? Why did you choose a Random Effects Model over Multiple Linear Regression or another statistical technique? How will you incorporate the different time points?

Minor Essential Revisions
1. While the acronyms of the various assessments are stated in the Abstract, it would be nice to have them defined in the Measures section as well.
3. Statistical analysis -> Comparisons of drop-outs should also include a Chi-Square Test of Independence for categorical variables (i.e., Gender).
4. Statistical analysis -> The proposal states that Missing Data will be coded as a zero. Is this process for all of the questionnaires administered? Oftentimes individuals are reluctant to provide information about their psychological health and my leave the questionnaire blank. It doesn’t mean that they are without psychological distress. Please provide more clarification on this topic and how you will deal with the missing data for all instruments being used.

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.