Reviewer's report

Title: Use of dietary supplements by cardiologists, dermatologists and orthopedists: report of a survey

Version: 1 Date: 25 November 2010

Reviewer: Rebecca Costello

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
Under methods, could the authors please comment whether the two survey populations, physicians from the eRewards physician panel and the physicians from the AMA panel were similar in demographics and equally blinded to the exact nature of the survey prior to electing to participate. If not balanced or equally blinded, rationale for combining the physician groups should be provided.

Minor Essential Revisions
Can any additional information be provided on the geographical location of the physicians responding to the survey?

Discretionary Revisions
The authors may also wish to reference findings from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) as another CDC Survey of dietary supplement use and behaviors.

The authors may wish to comment further in the discussion section on the predominately male response survey and that rates could possibly be higher with additional female physician participants.

Future surveys may wish to explore where physicians obtain their information on dietary supplements and what level of evidence (clinical reports, RCTs, evidence-based reviews or public health recommendations) do they need to feel confident in making a recommendation for use to their patients.

Nice use of novel, high tech. methodology to obtain timely information on supplement use.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.