Reviewer's report

Title: Review: Thickening agents used for dysphagia management: Effect on bioavailability of water, medication and feelings of satiety

Version: 1 Date: 25 February 2013

Reviewer: Stephanie Daniels

Reviewer's report:

This is a well-researched review article that is of significant importance concerning the effects of thickeners in individuals with dysphagia. An excellent overview is provided with key articles highlighted.

Minor essential revisions:
1. Page 5, 2nd full paragraph, line 6: Please provide a reference for the statement "Although unpopular by patients."
2. Page 7, 1st full paragraph, last sentence: Please provide a reference for this sentence which states that individuals consume less thickened liquids as compared to unthickened liquids.

Page 7, next paragraph: suggest changing "jugs" to "containers". Also, individuals without dysphagia may have difficulty opening food/drink containers; moreover, individuals without dysphagia may have insufficient access to regular liquids, especially if dependent on another person to supply. Suggest restructuring or eliminating.

Discretionary Revision
1. Page 8, first full paragraph, 2nd sentence: This sentence is awkward as written.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests.