Reviewer’s report

Title: The impact of networks on clinical trials in the United Kingdom

Version: 6 Date: 28 September 2009

Reviewer: Claire Snowdon

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There are a few points that I would like to pass on to the authors in addition:

In June Nature published a supportive commentary on the Vickers and Scardino article written by Crawford and Tangen entitled "Clinical integration: laudable, but challenging" - http://www.nature.com/nrurol/journal/v6/n6/full/nrurol.2009.97.html). It might be worth having a quick look and referencing this paper as it also discusses the "burdensome" aspects of RCTs. While this would be entirely optional, it just might strengthen and support their position.

In the first line of the introduction, the paper concerned should be referenced as Vickers and Scardino, not just as Vickers.

Also in the introduction, line 12 it seems that a word is missing in the sentence starting "This complexity..." I suggest that it should read "... CAN require the involvement of district general hospital clinical specialists".

In the first line of the final paragraph, "several" not "severall"