Reviewer's report

Title: INVESTIGATE-I (INVasive Evaluation before Surgical Treatment of Incontinence Gives Added Therapeutic Effect?): the protocol for a mixed methods study to assess the feasibility of a future randomised controlled trial of the clinical utility of invasive urodynamic testing.

Version: 1 Date: 22 June 2011

Reviewer: Lehana Thabane

Reviewer's report:

This paper is a protocol for a pilot study to assess the feasibility of a large full-scale randomized controlled trial to the effect and cost-effectiveness of invasive urodynamic testing (IUT) versus non-invasive tests in treatment decision-making and clinical outcomes in women with urinary incontinence.

As a pilot trial, the study is well designed with primary focus on feasibility objectives and appropriate feasibility outcomes. The rationale for starting with a pilot seems reasonable. Below are some minor suggestions to consider.

1) Abstract: Background
   a) Replace “significant” with “serious”. It is often best to use “significant” only in reference to statistical significance.

2) Outcomes
   a) Consider stating the criteria for success of feasibility. Ie the criteria that will be used to decide whether or not feasibility has been established. These need to be based on the feasibility outcomes.

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'