Reviewer's report

Title: Flexible trial design in practice: stopping arms for lack-of-benefit and adding research arms mid-trial in STAMPEDE: a multi arm multi stage randomised controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 12 August 2012

Reviewer: Charlie Goldsmith

Reviewer's report:

Minor issues.
1. In the replies to Goldsmith # 53, the reference to the Landis and Kock paper has taken the citation from PubMed rather than the paper in Biometrics. Indeed JR Landis is a friend and his citation of the R standfs fro Richard. He is known as Dick to his friends. I still think the Biometrics citation should rule.
2. Page 15 of 40, line 318. Since November 2012 has not even happened, the date should likely be changed from 2012 to 2011.

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.