Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of a Gyejibongnyeong-hwan on Dysmenorrhea caused by Blood stagnation

Version: 2 Date: 1 July 2011

Reviewer: Andrew Vickers

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Major compulsory revisions

1) The sample size calculation is based on the effect size observed in a pilot study, not the minimum difference that would be considered clinically significant. This should be amended.

2) The primary and secondary analyses should be by analysis of covariance (i.e. linear regression predicting the follow-up score in terms of baseline score and treatment group). See http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2288/5/35/ This may be what the authors describe as "repeated measures ANOVA" but it is not clear.

3) The English is very informal (e.g. "it doesn't matter" and "it's not appropriate"). There are also numerous grammatical errors. The paper should be edited by a native English speaker before submission.

4) Do not use "last observation carried forward": this is known to be an unsound method.

5) What is the rationale for the very many secondary outcomes (blood counts etc)?