Reviewer's report

Title: Forty-five years of schizophrenia trials in Italy: a survey

Version: 2 Date: 27 December 2011

Reviewer: Roberta Scherer

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is much improved. There are still two pieces of information that should be included in the methods and I have one comment.

Major compulsory

1. The date that the Cochrane Schizophrenia Group’s specialized register was searched should be included. One could infer from the information given that it was searched after April 2011, the date of the last update. However, the month that the search was conducted search should be stated.

2. the way the “reliability check” was conducted should be described.

Minor essential

1. The comment has to do with the last full paragraph on page 9 in the discussion. It is not clear what you mean when you recommend that “develop tools to better describe and appraise the randomisation process in a culturally sensitive manner.” Randomisation as practiced in the conduct of randomized controlled trials is a scientific process - it should not differ across cultures in a meaningful way. I may be missing something though, so please expand on what you mean.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

No conflict of interest