Reviewer's report

Title: Standard abdominal wound edge protection with surgical dressings vs. coverage with a sterile circular polyethylene drape for prevention of surgical site infections. A patient and observer-blinded randomized controlled trial - BaFO

Version: 5 Date: 23 January 2012

Reviewer: Charlie Goldsmith

Reviewer's report:

For the most part the replies indicate the suggested changes have been made; however, some of them were not implemented properly.

Here are the things I would suggest they change. The pages in the revised paper were numbered from 1 to 32.

1. P(age) 6, p(aragraph) 1, l(ine) 4. Insert [years] after [18].
2. P 7, p 1, l 17. Replace [are by] by [will be].
3. P 8, p 2, l 13. Insert [to] between [according] and [standard].
4. P 9, p 1, l 3, 9 and 10. Also P 11, p 4, l 11. The word [centre] and [center] do not seem to be used consistently. Also later in the paper it is also a problem since R(eference) 9, l 2 on P 25, l 2 uses [Centers] and P 24, l 2 uses [Centres]. These should be made consistent in the paper. A search and replace should be attempted to make these consistent. Also P 10, p 1, l 14, 18 and 20.
5. P 10, p 2, l 1. Replace [IIT] by [ITT], and the latter should also be entered on P 17.
9. P 19, l 4. Insert a space to read [90 cm].
10. P 25, R 5, l 2. Insert (round brackets) around the language to read [(German)]. This should be at the end of l 3, and not on l 2.