Reviewer’s report

Title: Exercise to preserve beta cell function in recent-onset type 1 diabetes mellitus (EXTOD)-a study protocol for a pilot randomised controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 14 May 2013

Reviewer: Harald Sourij

Reviewer’s report:

Lascar et al present a study protocol for a pilot study aiming to investigate the feasibility of an intensive exercise programme in patients with newly diagnosed type 1 diabetes and as a secondary outcome the loss of beta-cell function. This study will provide the necessary data to design a larger, more definitive trial.

This is a well written manuscript of an interesting study.

Minor Essential Revision:

Section Patients and Methods
- Setting and Recruitment (Need to change these hospital names to trust names)
- should be done and removed from the heading.

Section "Planned sample size analyses"

As the first 3 paragraphs present the same thoughts and calculations the authors should consider removing the 2nd paragraph to avoid redundancy.

Confidential to the authors - not to be published:

a few typos

e.g.: Abstract/Discussion: This information with...

Section "What are the benefits of beta cell preservation in people with type 1 diabetes" ....levels of 30 pmol/L can be now be...

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests with regard to this manuscript.