Reviewer's report

Title: A randomised controlled trial comparing the efficacy of intranasal ketamine and fentanyl in the relief of moderate to severe pain in children with limb injuries: The PICHFORK Trial (Pain In CHildren Fentanyl OR Ketamine)

Version: 1 Date: 26 April 2013

Reviewer: Sanjay Bhananker

Reviewer’s report:

method of rescue analgesia to use would depend on treating doctor's preference - IN Fentanyl vs IV morphine? Would they start an IV line to administer rescue analgesia? Is the standard of care in Australia?

Does the use of rescue analgesic exclude the patient from the study?

How will these patients be monitored after IN Fentanyl or IN Ketamine? If a minor procedure needs to be done, (suturing or closed reduction or splint application) would that be done after the study is complete (60 min after drug administration)? If procedures are undertaken within the study period, the pain scores could be affected by the "procedural pain"

Line 165-166. YOu mention VAS scores. I believe this also includes the FPS-R. I would prefer to say that the outcome will be reduction in PAIN SEVERITY SCORES.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

no competing interests