Reviewer's report

Title: Zinc supplementation in pre-diabetes: study protocol for a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial

Version: 5  Date: 28 January 2013

Reviewer: Tobias Freund

Reviewer's report:

Ranasinghe et al. report the protocol of a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial on the effect of zinc supplementation in pre-diabetes. The manuscript is well-written overall. I recommend two minor essential revisions prior to publication of the manuscript in Trials:

1) Statistical analysis: Please state explicitly whether you intend to perform intention-to-treat or per-protocol analysis for the primary outcome. Do you have an a-priori statistical analysis plan? Please state how "multiple" testing will be addressed in your statistics.

2) Please state if you comply with the Declaration of Helsinki and the GCP guidelines.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

No conflict of interest