Reviewer's report

Title: Trial to Re-evaluate Ultrasound in the Treatment of Tibial Fractures (T.R.U.S.T.): A Multicentre Randomized Pilot Study

Version: 1 Date: 16 September 2013

Reviewer: Andrew Vickers

Reviewer's report:

Minor compulsory revisions

1. In the results section of the abstract, the authors say that they "conducted an analysis using data from another tibial fracture trial that revealed the SMFA dysfunction index offered no important advantages over the SF-36 PCS score". A few comments here: a) it is not a result of this trial; b) if they want to feature this in the abstract, the analysis should be described in a little more detail in the discussion, rather than just referencing the prior paper.

2. Provide confidence intervals for key estimates, such as accrual and compliance rates (the former would be by Poisson type)

3. Remove unnecessary ANOVA p values. The p value for group essentially asks whether there are baseline differences between groups; the p value for time asks whether scores change over time (they probably do, right?). report only the time x treatment interaction.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

none