Reviewer's report

Title: Thoracic epidural analgesia versus rectus sheath catheters for open midline incisions in major abdominal surgery within an Enhanced Recovery Program (TERSC): study protocol for a randomised controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 22 August 2014

Reviewer: Christoph Michalski

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting study, comparing "thoracic epidural analgesia versus rectus sheath catheters for open midline incisions in major abdominal surgery". The topic is highly important and has enormous clinical relevance. The study protocol is well written.

I only have one concern: the authors should probably re-assess their sample size calculation. My impression is that the sample size is too low and that the study might end up underpowered.