Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of near-infrared light to reduce symptoms associated with Restless Legs Syndrome: a case report

Version: 2 Date: 29 March 2010

Reviewer: Claudia Trenkwalder

Comments to authors:

This is an interesting case report – although one should be very cautious to interpret this finding, as it is the result of treating one patient.

Some comments:

- the case report should be shortened, the language should be changed with avoiding „I“ during the paper.

- The author missed the most interesting support for her hypothesis: there is a paper on the relation of NO genetics and RLS, and this could be a missing link in this therapy. The discussion should include this research: Variants in the neuronal nitric oxide synthase (nNOS, NOS1) gene are associated with restless legs syndrome. Winkelmann J, Lichtner P, Schormair B, Uhr M, Hauk S, Stiasny-Kolster K, Trenkwalder C, Paulus W, Peglau I, Eisensehr I, Illig T, Wichmann HE, Pfister H, Golic J, Bettecken T, Pütz B, Holsboer F, Meitinger T, Müller-Myhsok B. Mov Disord. 2008 Feb 15;23(3):350-8.

- The entire discussion could be focused on the NO hypothesis and RLS

- The possibility of a pure placebo effect should be discussed, as it had happened with another non-pharmacological therapy in RLS. This paper should also be cited and discussed: Enhanced external counter pulsation (EECP) for restless legs syndrome (RLS): preliminary negative results in a parallel double-blind study. Rajaram SS, Rudzinskiy P, Walters AS. Sleep Med. 2006 Jun;7(4):390-1. Epub 2006 May 19.