Reviewer's report

Title: Physical therapies for Achilles tendinopathy: systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 2 Date: 2 April 2012

Reviewer: Shannon Munteanu

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. Abstract:

Results: The finding that a single RCT showed SWT to be effective when added to an eccentric exercise program may need to be incorporated into the results to justify the conclusions ‘…Shock wave therapy may represent an effective alternative’.

2. Main document:

There are some areas with errors in spacing between words/references (e.g. pages 12, 16 and 18).

Outcome measures: Can the authors provide references for ‘Additional data was requested for six [ref] of the 19 studies, with three authors [ref] replying to correspondence and two [ref] providing sufficient data for further evaluation.’

Evidence for physical therapies, page 13, para 3 (EE versus SWT): Were there two studies comparing SWT to EE (i.e. refs 25 and 26) (as described on page 15 para 2)? Please revise accordingly and modify the accompanying Forest plot (Figure 2) if so.

Page 15, line 2: Please replace the hyphen with ‘to’ (i.e. 11 to 12).

3. References:

Several references have capitalisations of all words in the title. Please amend accordingly.

Reference 42: change ‘trail’ to ‘trial’.

4. Tables:

Some tables still contain vertical lines. Please remove these to be consistent with the journal guidelines.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests