Reviewer’s report

Title: Guidelines for randomized clinical trial protocol content: a systematic review

Version: 2 Date: 15 May 2012

Reviewer: Xin Sun

Reviewer’s report:

Congratulations to authors!!! This is a well conceptualized, conducted, and reported study. I only have a couple of minor comments.

1) Why did authors exclude a tool if it contained content specific to a narrower health care research area? It is understood that this study may not intend to focus on a specific area. But it is not clear enough in the report.

2) Since this study has stated the importance of transparency of protocol, it may be desirable to include the protocol of its own as an appendix (rather than "available upon request").

Level of interest: An article of importance 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:

No.