Reviewer's report

**Title:** Systematic Reviews of Observational Studies of Risk of Thrombosis and Bleeding in Urological Surgery (ROTBUS): Introduction and Methodology

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 4 November 2014

**Reviewer:** Susanne Hempel

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a very useful documentation of the systematic review approach. Please see my comments below.

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

The introduction refers to a "set of common urological procedures" and the eligibility criteria refers to "procedures for diseases of the urinary tract..." If you searched for studies on specific procedures these should be described somewhere, alternatively, "procedures" should be defined.

Do all the electronic searches rely on MeSH terms? It takes a while for records to be fully indexed and very new studies may have be missed because the controlled language has not yet been assigned. The risk should be discussed.

The rationale to use the median estimate (p.10) seems out of place in the Final selection of studies.

The analysis section is difficult to follow. I would suggest adding subheadings.

**Minor Essential Revisions**

Some of the keywords do not seem to be sufficiently specific in order to help describe the manuscript or support electronic searches (e.g., "timing")

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**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.