Reviewer’s report

Title: Observational evidence and strength of evidence domains: Case examples

Version: 2 Date: 9 February 2014

Reviewer: Susan L Norris

Reviewer’s report:

Major essential revisions
None

Minor essential revisions
1. This manuscript is much improved and now has a reasonable framework and structure.
2. Page 8: Limited RCT data: I think this section would be stronger if you provided an example of where observational studies did increase the strength of the evidence from that of the trial data.
3. Page 15: The body of evidence included 5 RCTs and for various reasonable reasons, observational studies were examined. However, what did those OS add to the RCT data? This information would strengthen this case example.

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 have previously published in this area of research. I have no financial interests related to the subject of this manuscript.