Reviewer’s report

Title: Comparison of nuisance parameters in pediatric versus adult randomized trials: A meta-epidemiologic empirical evaluation

Version: 0 Date: 17 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Zhongheng Zhang

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written article investigating the difference of CER in pediatric and adult populations. I have several minor comments.

1. In figure 2 and 4, it is best to add statistics to the side of the forest plot. Some readers may be interested in these statistics.

2. Since the authors are trying to investigate the age on CER-RR across meta-analysis, I suggest to add a meta-regression analysis and to examine whether the age had impact on the statistics. This is also a method to explore heterogeneity.

3. "Finally, we calculated the summary -CER-RR between pediatric and adult trials and their 95% confidence intervals across all meta-analyses by synthesizing the pooled logarithms of the CER-RRs within each meta-analysis again using the random effects model."---insert a reference here can be helpful (J Evid Based Med. 2016 Feb 9. doi: 10.1111/jebm.12191. ).

4. Many topics have more than one meta-analyses, they were updated. how do you choose the one to be included in analysis?

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal