Reviewer's report

Title: Are parents and adolescents in agreement on reporting of recurrent non-specific low back pain in adolescents? A cross-sectional descriptive study

Version: 1 Date: 4 June 2015

Reviewer: Kieran Cooley

Reviewer's report:

The authors have posed a clear question with appropriate and well described methods in their assessment of parental and adolescent agreement regarding the prevalence of non-specific low back pain. They provide a balanced description of findings and limitations of the study. The manuscript is well written and conforms to reporting standards of surveys and analysis of data of this nature.

Major Compulsory Revisions
none

Minor Essential Revisions
1) In the methods section, or limitations, discuss the accuracy of reporting in relation to these questionnaires – limits of self-report are acknowledged, though accuracy of data, even from the adolescent, should be noted.

2) In the methods sections, discuss the process, methods, steps or any assurances that can be provided surrounding the independence of parental surveys (i.e. to what extent might parents have been encouraged to discuss or complete the surveys together, but separate from input from their child).

Discretionary Revisions

3) Line 216 – specify that the prevalence statistic stems from either parent or child identifying NSLBP in the past 12 months.

4) Lines 283-285: if possible, provide a citation for the claim that there are beliefs linking early sexual indulgence with adolescent back pain.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests