Reviewer's report

**Title:** Counselling versus low-intensity cognitive behavioural therapy for persistent sub-threshold and mild depression (CLICD): A pilot/feasibility randomised controlled trial

**Version:** 3  
**Date:** 11 March 2015

**Reviewer:** Yasuyuki Okumura

**Reviewer's report:**

**Minor Essential Revisions**
1. On page 4 line 54, the authors should identify a comparison group when describing an effect size.
2. On page 4, the authors should identify a study method when persisting an equivalent efficacy.
3. On page 7, the overall rate of screening pack might be 28.1%.

**Discretionary Revisions**
In the future trial, I think that the authors should plan to conduct a non-inferiority or equivalent trial rather a superiority trial. There is a limited-rationale to conduct a superiority trial.

**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:**
None of competing interests