Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Effectiveness of physiotherapy exercise following total knee replacement: systematic review and meta-analysis

**Version:** 2  
**Date:** 6 November 2014

**Reviewer:** Asmaa Mahmoud Ali Moustafa

**Reviewer’s report:**

Peer Review:

Effectiveness of physiotherapy exercise following total knee replacement: systematic review and meta-analysis

Neil Artz, Karen T Elvers, Catherine Minns Lowe, Cath Sackley, Paul Jepson, Andrew D Beswick

This is a systematic meta-analysis review provides a quantitative estimate for the effect of post-discharge physiotherapy exercise in patients with primary total knee replacement, it provides also qualitative evaluation hints regarding the strengths, and weaknesses of included studies.

This article is relevant to the scope of BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders Journal in the aspect of musculoskeletal disorders management. The authors showed evidence of short-term effectiveness of physiotherapy exercise after total knee replacement regarding physical function, without identification of its benefits on long term.

Although the results cannot be used to form a treatment recommendation, however it provides guidance for the design of future clinical trials.

General overview:
- The title and keywords are adequate.
- Abstract is reflecting the essential parts of the manuscript.
- The text (Introduction, Methods, Results, List of abbreviation, Authors’ contribution, Acknowledgements) all are appropriately described following to a good extent the instructions given by BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders Journal.
- Discussion and conclusion are well balanced supported by the data.
- The authors also considered the points of weakness of their study and cited updated relevant references.
- The included additional files are appropriate

** in the attachment please find Minor Essential Revisions and few recommendations to authors within a table written in the same order as in the
manuscript.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'