Reviewer’s report

Title: Efficacy and safety of Qing-Feng-Gan-Ke Granules in patients with postinfectious cough: study protocol of a novel-design phase 3 placebo-controlled, double-blind randomized trial

Version: 3
Date: 2 July 2015

Reviewer: Anne Elizabeth Vertigan

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have made considerable attempt to address my original questions regarding the manuscript. Some of the responses to the queries should actually be included in the document. Additional comments are as follows:

1. Could the authors please elaborate on the four diagnostic methods (inspection, auscultation, enquiry, pulse-taking etc).
2. Further elaboration is required on the side effects of other medications – what was the severity and prevalence of these side effects?
3. Could the authors please re-word the phrase “contributing to resultful conclusions that laid a solid foundation for the current phase III trial”
4. Limitations of the study should be addressed in the discussion.
5. The upper age limit is not consistent with many treatment studies of cough.
6. The numbering and labeling of tables and figures is still not clear.