Reviewer's report

Title: Herbal medicine use by surgery patients in Hungary: a descriptive study

Version: 6 Date: 8 August 2015

Reviewer: tonia onyeka

Reviewer's report:

• Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore): None
• Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct): None
• Major Compulsory Revisions (which the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached):
  1. Needs serious English language editing.
  2. In the methods section (of the abstract) the authors state that their focus was herbal medicine consumption habits of their surgical patients. However, on examining their questionnaire, just 2 questions in the questionnaire focus on herbal use; the bulk of questions were on patient demographics. It is my opinion that those 2 questions alone cannot define the habits of the patients. Authors should re-phrase that sentence accordingly.
  3. Study population is not well-defined viz inclusion-exclusion criteria. Were children included in the study? If yes, was consent obtained and how?
  4. Was the questionnaire validated?
  5. Why produce a chart of frequently used herbs documented in other previous studies when this study did not go into such inquiry? It is completely out of place and hence should be removed. Mention can however be made of types of herbs normally associated with presurgical patients, in the discussion.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests