Reviewer's report

Title: Twelve Chinese herbal preparations for the treatment of depression or depressive symptoms in cancer patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

Version: 0 Date: 12 Jun 2018

Reviewer: A.H.M. Khurshid Alam

Reviewer's report:

The author has performed a huge computer based study. I appreciate their works though I am not clear why the author used the term chinese herbal medicine (CHM) for this study. Does it mean all kind of CHM that are used in china has been included in this study?

Another concern is that there are a lot of bias, such as wrong information regarding age, sex type of disease and also stages of cancer, may happen such type of study. How did the author overcome those bias?

Some minor corrections are also need. These are as follows

page 4, line 70-76, author need to rearrange the sentence as simple and petite form so that general reader can understand it clearly. Author need to give attention such type of sentences through out the manuscript.

Page 7, line 108-111, Author need to incorporate references (Although clinical studies regarding the use of CHM for depression or depressive symptoms in cancer patients............................)

Can check the manuscript by a native English speaker

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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