Reviewer's report

**Title:** Effective recruitment of participants to a phase I study using the internet and publicity releases through charities and patient organisations: analysis of the Adaptive study of IL-2 dose on regulatory T cells in type 1 diabetes (DILT1D)

**Version:** 3  
**Date:** 27 December 2014  
**Reviewer:** Colin CM Dayan

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have added substantial additional data which addresses all my major points.

Discretionary points - to be added to the discussion since there is now new information:

1. Very helpful to have the demography breakdown. It would be worth adding a comment to the discussion on these results e.g. that internet based recruitment appeared to reach a more deprived group (is this related to the local demography of the trial site – ie high SE class in the area) and did include new onset cases. This information is of value in considering any bias introduced by different approaches into the study population as a whole.

2. I would also comments on the costs e.g. – although recruitment via the register and internet was £500 more expensive, this is likely to be offset by the costs of opening additional study sites

3. It might be helpful to re-emphasise in the conclusion that this study involved recruitment for a mechanistic study which was relatively unlikely to benefit the individual study participants.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have been part of a joint programme grant application with some of the authors.