Reviewer's report

**Title:** Electro-acupuncture for treatment of knee pain from osteoarthritis and the possible endocrinology changes, quality of life improvement and reduction of pain medication use: a study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 7 April 2015

**Reviewer:** Cun-Zhi Liu

**Reviewer's report:**

- **Major Compulsory Revisions**
  1. Methods/Design, Participants, third paragraph, third sentence, "The patient dropout rate of subjects who abandon the study has been estimated to be zero, although, in cases of patient loss or abandonment, new ones will be recruited to fulfill designed patient number." Could you provide the lecture you cited for this methodology?

- **Minor Essential Revisions**
  1. The title should be modified for the reason that it is too long. Moreover quality of life improvement and reduction of pain medication use are just secondary variables, you had better omit them in the title.
  2. Although a professional English editor helped you correct grammatical problems, there are a number of grammatical problems. And you should modify the grammar, spelling and writing. And you had better provide a demonstration of language editing company. For instance:

Please employ italic format, when you mention the names of the acupoints and academic institution in the manuscript.

... 

- **Discretionary Revisions**

I suggest that this manuscript can’t be publication before a major revision.

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

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**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.