Reviewer’s report

Title: Effectiveness, costs and cost-effectiveness of chiropractic care and physiotherapy compared with information and advice in the treatment of non-specific chronic low back pain - study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 24 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Sarah Paganini

Reviewer’s report:

The revision of the manuscript was conducted thoroughly and many questions could be answered/clarified. I have some last comments:

208: As you have the possibility to evaluate the direct comparative cost-effectiveness (physiotherapy vs. chiropractic care), this analysis would be interesting as well. If you want to evaluate that, you should mention it here, too.

245: It is still not clear, what you mean with „pain attributable to a known specific pathology”.

285: You should add the exactly used block size(s) (4, 6, 8?).

569: I would recommend to focus more on your strengths. The limitations are very prominent right now. I also would recommend to right down the impact of your study at the end of the discussion (right now, it is at the beginning).

Minor comment: 430: You can delete „between treatments"

Figure: I would recommend to design figure 1 as a CONSORT flow diagram

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