Reviewer's report

Title: Adherence to Brain Trauma Foundation guidelines for management of traumatic brain injury patients: study protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 2
Date: 15 May 2015

Reviewer: Kehu Yang

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. In the section of “Protocol and study overview”, it is better to leave the purpose of the study out because it have been report in the “Objective”. For the abbreviation, MOOSE and PRISMA are not reported in the right place.

2. In the section of “Population”, it could be more sufficient if the author supplement the information about population. One of the objectives is to assess the practitioners’ adherence to the BTF guidelines. Thus, another important population is practitioner or health worker in the hospital. The practitioner or health worker should be reported in the section of “Objective”.

3. In the section of “Study selection”, the eligibility criteria should be revised. Firstly, the author report they will include the guideline. However, randomized controlled trials, cohort, case-control and case series are reported to be included in the section of “Study design”. Then the author should confirm that the guideline they include or not. Secondly, the author report they will include original research and the study such as randomized trials, cohort, case-control and case series. Meanwhile, they will exclude case reports and non-original articles. It is inconsistent. Thus, the excluding criteria should be described again.

4. In the section of “Data synthesis”, it is best to report the methods about data synthesis. Therefore, the information about data extraction reported in the first and second paragraph should not be reported in this section.

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 declare that I have no competing interests.