Reviewer’s report

Title: Network meta-analysis of randomised trials of pharmacological, psychotherapeutic, exercise and collaborative care interventions for depressive symptoms in patients with coronary artery disease: hybrid systematic review of systematic reviews protocol

Version: 1 Date: 23 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Qin Xiang Ng

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the revisions made. I only have the following minor comments:

- Please change "the effecti sizes" to "the effect sizes".

- "unspecified interventions (e.g. complementary and alternative therapies) may be included, post-hoc, in the network, if they are deemed to supply vital information for increasing precision of the results [28], but otherwise will not be included." It would be worthwhile to consider the potential beneficial effects of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) therapies as well. Herbal remedies such as St John's wort have a growing evidence base (citation: Ng QX, Venkatanarayanan N, Ho CY. Clinical use of Hypericum perforatum (St John's wort) in depression: A meta-analysis. Journal of Affective Disorders. 2017 Mar 1;210:211-21) and are gaining popularity in Western countries, with at least 40% of the sufferers consuming at least 1 herbal remedy in the US annually (citation: Kessler RC, Soukup J, Davis RB, Foster DF, Wilkey SA, Van Rompay MI, Eisenberg DM. The use of complementary and alternative therapies to treat anxiety and depression in the United States. American Journal of Psychiatry. 2001 Feb 1;158(2):289-94).

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