

## PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below. Some articles will have been accepted based in part or entirely on reviews undertaken for other BMJ Group journals. These will be reproduced where possible.

### ARTICLE DETAILS

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| <b>TITLE (PROVISIONAL)</b> | PC6 Acupoint Stimulation for the Prevention of Post-Cardiac Surgery Nausea and Vomiting: a protocol for a two-group, parallel, superiority randomised clinical trial |
| <b>AUTHORS</b>             | Cooke, Marie; Rickard, Claire; Rapchuk, Ivan; Shekar, Kiran; Marshall, Andrea; Comans, Tracey; Doi, Suhail; McDonald, John; Spooner, Amy                             |

### VERSION 1 - REVIEW

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| <b>REVIEWER</b>        | George Djaiani<br>University Health Network, Toronto General Hospital, Toronto, Canada |
| <b>REVIEW RETURNED</b> | 08-Aug-2014  |

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| <b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b> | I would advise the authors to include postoperative pain assessment (e.g., VAS or similar), due to potential interaction between postoperative pain and PONV. |
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| <b>REVIEWER</b>        | Caroline Smith<br>University of Western Sydney, Australia |
| <b>REVIEW RETURNED</b> | 03-Oct-2014   |

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| <b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b> | <p>Overall the paper is well written and I have only a few points of clarification are required.</p> <p>Abstract: the abstract describes in the introduction that the research will develop an understanding of treatment fidelity and factors that support or impede the use of PC6. I didn't find these related methods described sufficiently in the methods section.</p> <p>The rationale for treatment of only this point and for only 36 hours could be expanded. Other points could have been used, although as discussed these points are used easily.</p> <p>Exclusion criteria: should this be extended to previous use of acupuncture? This may influence expectancy.</p> <p>Is the statistician blind to analysis- not made explicitly clear.</p> |
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