Reviewer's report

**Title:** Individual patient data meta-analysis of trials investigating the effectiveness of intra-articular glucocorticoid injections in patients with knee or hip OA: an OA Trial Bank protocol for a systematic review

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 10 May 2013

**Reviewer:** Alexander Tsertsvadze

**Reviewer's report:**

1. Is the study design appropriate?
   YES

2. Are sufficient details provided to allow replication of the work or comparison with related analyses: if not, what is missing?
   YES
   PERHAPS HAVING LITTLE BIT MORE DETAIL ON IPD DATA ACQUISITION PROCESS AND MANAGEMENT (E.G., SOFTWARE, SECURITY, DATA ACCURACY VALIDATION) WOULD NOT HURT.

3. Is the planned statistical analysis appropriate?
   YES
   INFO ON THE CHOICE OF MEASURES OF ASSOCIATION FOR PAIN IS MISSING (E.G., MEAN DIFFERENCE, RISK RATIO, 95% CIs).
   INTERPRETATION OF THE LINEAR REGRESSION COEFFICIENT FOR THE TREATMENT (glucocorticoid injection) IS NEEDED.

4. Is the writing acceptable?
   YES