

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form ([see an example](#)) 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

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Effect of the EndoBarrier Gastrointestinal Liner on obesity and type 2 diabetes: protocol for systematic review and meta-analysis of clinical studies
AUTHORS	Rohde, Ulrich; Hedbäck, Nora; Gluud, Lise; Vilsbøll, Tina; Knop, Filip

VERSION 1 - REVIEW

REVIEWER	de Moura, Eduardo G.H. University of São Paulo Medical School, Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Unit
REVIEW RETURNED	30-Jul-2013

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>My comments are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A protocol can only be evaluated as well (as you may need modifications on the way) depending on the results that are obtained. 2. What is the usefulness, relevance and interest of the publisher to disseminate the protocol results (it is a matter of editorial policy)? 3. Dissemination protocols in full favor prior publication by other authors, similar review in another journal. 4. The idea of publishing protocols Systematic Review is different from publishing protocols Trials. 5. The Cochrane does not disclose its protocols in their entirety.
-------------------------	---

REVIEWER	<p>Bikram Bal MD Attending Gastroenterologist Centra Southside Community Hospital Farmville, VA23901</p> <p>No conflict of interest</p>
REVIEW RETURNED	05-Aug-2013

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>The article is well written and very succinctly addresses the article focus. However in my opinion this is not the appropriate journal for publication of this article. I think the readers of a clinical journal like BMJ open would benefit more from results of the study proposed rather than the protocol to conduct the study. Additionally I do not think the protocol for study merits its own publication. The protocol described has been used in the past and does not describe a novel or new concept. I do not think the protocol merits a publications of its own. I think the protocol will be better published as a part of the final paper under the methods section once the authors have completed the study and have the proposed results.</p>
-------------------------	---

	<p>If the authors so desire, they should submit the protocol to a methods journal. Alternatively they can also try delineating why their protocol is novel and should be considered for publication in a journal which largely publishes clinical trials.</p>
--	---