

The study was described as "double blind," and yet the treated participants were clearly aware that a healing modality was taking place.

The term "double blind" is in line with the ICH GCP guideline for clinical trials. In normal double blind clinical trials, the patients are aware that they are participating in a clinical trial and will be treated with medication. What they are not aware is whether they will receive "Test" or "Placebo". In the present clinical trial, patients are aware that a Healing modality is taking place but they are not aware if they are receiving real or dummy healing Energy. In addition, both investigator and patients are blind to the nature of healing Energy, only the healer knows about the nature of Healing Energy. Hence the term "Double Blind" was used.

Also, no description was included on how the control group was handled. Was there, for example, someone doing a "sham" healing? Were those participants just sitting in a room unattended all day? Were their medications, age and genders matched against the treatment group? For the control group to be a useful comparison it must be matched as closely as possible to the treatment in terms of the participants, the procedures and the environment. It is especially important to include a person who mimics the same kind of behavior as was provided by the real healer. Any difference between the two groups makes it impossible to gain confidence in the conclusion that "the study conducted showed that the Healing Energy does interact with the body."

The term "Control Group" means that all the conditions were similar between Treatment and control group as per standard clinical trial. Hence no description was given. In addition, there is restriction on number of words and hence details of handling of control group separately.

Why were average blood glucose values compared between the treatment and control groups, rather than *changes* in glucose from each participant's fasting baseline level?

Kindly note that the blood Glucose values are compared within the treatment group as well as with Control group. Since it is a clinical trial, mean values rather than individual comparison is carried out. Individual comparison may be biased.

It is mentioned that "The effect of attending the healing sessions was also evident from the feedback which revealed that the overall wellbeing of the subjects improved as they attended the Healing sessions," but no data was provided to support this statement. The tables do not provide comparison information about the control groups, and Figure 2 does not indicate changes from baseline in the two conditions, or any standard errors, so it is not known if the displayed differences are statistically meaningful.

The data between Treatment and Control groups was subjected to statistical t-test and was found significant. Hence no other details were given. The details of the feedback are not given since there is restriction on "number of words". Moreover this is a pilot study and hence only few details are given.

In general when discussing healing energy it is important to give much more information about the actual method, some of the history, how the proficiency of the healer is judged, and etc.

Providing these details will exceed the size of the manuscript and the Editor will reject the paper only for this reason. To help Reviewer, details are given as an Annexure. Kindly note that the Annexure is not to be included in publication.

Also, this statement is not true: "there are no or few reports of a clinical trial which is scientifically designed and documented." There are many such published studies regarding use of Reiki, Therapeutic Touch, and etc.

As far as I am aware, there only a few such publication which are designed and carried out as per GCP with Ethical review, Informed consent form, QA review etc. Hence this statement was made.

Finally, while there are pointers to citations in the paper, the manuscript itself does not have the references listed.

This is first of its kind of clinical trial on Effect of Healing Energy which is a type of Chakra healing energy and I do not have any references on previous studies which used similar energy healing. Hence there are no mentions.