Reviewer’s report

Title: A frequency shift in the anterior default mode network and the salience network in chronic pain disorder

Version: 6 Date: 14 December 2012

Reviewer: Radi Masri

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Dear Dr. Andresson

In the revised manuscript, the data is better presented and figures and language is much improved. However, I am afraid that the revised submission fails to address two of my most important concerns:

(1) The authors do not provide a clear rational for binning the BOLD signal into 6 frequency bins. They claim in the in the Methods that binning was done according to previous studies is false. The previous studies cited did not use the same binning strategy. The fact that they use appropriate statistics to analyze the bins does not make the binning strategy legitimate. At a minimum, this issue should be discussed.

(2) The authors still over state their findings: There was no correlation between shifts in frequency of the bold signal and anxiety, depression or chronic pain condition, yet, the authors conclude that these changes are due to chronic pain condition. While they address this issue in the reply letter, they put no effort into revising the manuscript to reflect this limitation.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests