Reviewer's report

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

Version: 6 Date: 18 December 2012

Reviewer: Karin Jensen

Reviewer's report:

In general I couldn’t find any tracked changes in the manuscript, only some red text on page 13. It was therefore hard to determine if there had been changes in the manuscript, for example in the introduction and results section. However, I hope I was able to find most of the suggested changes since last revision.

Major essential revisions

Two important things:

1. It is important that the authors temper the sentence in the discussion (page 16) about chronic somatoform pain being “decoupled from nociceptive input”. That can not be concluded just because there is no known etiology for the patients pain. I think that the sentence should be tempered.

2. The terms “chronic somatoform pain” and “chronic pain disorder” are used alternately in the manuscript, especially in the discussion. On page 15, for example, is the cited article dealing with the diagnosis PAIN DISORDER (according to DSM)? The authors should keep the terminology consistent throughout the paper so that it doesn’t seem like PAIN DISORDER and SOMATOFORM PAIN are two separate DSM diagnoses. As far as I know, PAIN DISORDER is a form of a somatoform pain and only PAIN DISORDER is a proper code in DSM and described as a type of somatoform disorder. If the authors agree with this distinction it should be clarified early in the paper.

No other comments or suggested revisions.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

No competing interests