Reviewer’s report

Title: Receptionist rECognition and rEferral of Patients with Stroke (RECEPTS) study - Protocol of a mixed methods study examining General Practice Receptionists’ behaviour and attitudes towards patients with stroke symptoms.

Version: 1  Date: 24 February 2014

Reviewer: Marzia Baldereschi

Reviewer’s report:

The idea of the study is excellent. The study design is appropriate, and the results will be important. The authors are to be congratulated for their study.

1- MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISION:

In the Background authors should stress that the ideal target for stroke treatment is the "golden hour", not the approved time window of 4.5 h.

The benefit of treatment strongly decreases as time passes. For every minute a large-vessel stroke goes untreated, an estimated 1.9 million neurons and 14 billion synapses are potentially lost (Saver JL, 2006), suggesting that even small differences in time to reperfusion could produce clinically relevant differences.

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests.