Reviewer's report

Title: Symptoms of gastroesophageal reflux disease in severely mentally retarded people: a systematic review.

Version: 2 Date: 26 April 2008

Reviewer: Yoshikazu Kinoshita

Reviewer's report:

The authors of this manuscript investigated the symptoms and signs of GERD in mentally retarded people by a systematic review of publications. The study is well designed and well performed. The information obtained by this systematic review will be a good help for health-care workers working on patients with mental retardation. The weak point of this study is the wide range variations of the publications collected from this systematic publication search. Enrollement criteria and endpoint of the study are so different between studies. Because of this wide variation, the major part of the manuscript is too descriptive and, in some parts, is just a summary of the past publications.

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.