Reviewer's report

Title: Depression after low-energy fracture in older women predicts future falls: A prospective observational study

Version: 1 Date: 5 July 2011

Reviewer: Joan Dodson

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revisions: the Results section is not clear, specifically paragraphs three and four in the Results section. In fact, in order to understand the results I had to go to the back of the paper and actually look at the tables. As the relationship between depression and falls is the whole point of the paper, the results section needs to be clearer.

Discretionary Revisions: The background paragraph in the Abstract should be rewritten. I had to reread it twice, slowly, in order to understand the flow of the sentences.

Please define 'low-energy' fracture in the beginning of the paper when it is first used (second paragraph, background section)

In the depressive symptoms section of the methods: a note that higher scores mean greater depression would be helpful.

In the statistical analyses section: should be 't' test, not 'T' test.

In the conclusions section: 'should anticipate on the presence of depresion' perhaps rewrite as 'should anticipate the presence of depression'

A correlation table would be very helpful.

I would be interested in reading a short paragraph on WHY the authors think depression may be related to falls. Although I realize that is not the intent of the paper, depression and falls is not an intuitive connection, and I wonder why depressed women may be falling more...

A general comment: I think depression in the elderly is an important topic that deserves increased research attention, and this paper is a good addition to the field.

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

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