Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Word Reading Threshold and Mild Cognitive Impairment: A Validation Study

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
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Dear Editors of BMC Geriatrics

We are writing to address the reviewers comments on our manuscript entitled: “Word Reading Threshold and Mild Cognitive Impairment: A Validation Study”. We have reviewed all the reviewers’ comments and made the appropriate change in the revised version of the manuscript (tables and figures included) submitted along with the cover letter.

One of the reviewer (NG) had no further comments and deemed our manuscript satisfactory. We thank him for his comments. The other reviewer (LS) had more comments, which we have addressed in the revised manuscript.

The first major revision asked by this reviewer was to address the significance of the AD patient whose score on trailmaking was 5 standard deviations from the group’s norm. We do not have further information to address the cause of this outlier score, but we know that this was not due to any visual impairment, as noted by the neuropsychologist. This is now stipulated in the manuscript.

The second major revision proposed by the reviewer was with regards to the comparison we made between our participants (figure 2) and Massoud’s participants (their own figure). Only the subjects from our study are shown in our figure. It seemed appropriate to redirect the interested readers to Massoud’s paper to examine the differences between our subjects and theirs.

A third major revision suggested by the reviewer concerned table 1. We thank the reviewer for noticing that we had not indicated the statistical differences between the groups on the neuropsychological tests. We modified table 1 accordingly.

Finally, the reviewer suggested that we specify that the “*” indicated a statistical difference in the AUC of MCInp and MCIp groups. This was done in the legend of table 1.

The associate editor of your journal asked us to specify the confounders corrected for in the statistics section. This has been done in the manuscript.

We hope that this addresses all concerns about our manuscript and that you will consider publishing it in your journal.

Sincerely,

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