Reviewer’s report

Title: The impact of early emergency department allied health intervention on admission rates in older people: a non-randomized clinical study

Version: 2 Date: 9 January 2012

Reviewer: Julia Crilly

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to revise this manuscript regarding allied health intervention for older persons who present to the ED. Comments and suggests made by the three reviewers have been well addressed by the authors.

Minor Essential Revisions:

Abstract

1) Results:
Wording of the sentence: “On subgroup analysis, allied health intervention significantly reduces admission rate…” I suggest revising the wording if this to: “On subgroup analysis admission rate was less for those who received allied health intervention versus those who did not receive allied health intervention. This difference was significant.”

Discussion

2) Paragraph 3 – sentence beginning: “It appears that the benefit of CCT intervention on admission….,” I suggest removing TIA (OR 0.65) from this sentence as it was not significant (the others were).

3) Paragraph 4 - The sentence: “The use of allied health personnel in ED, over and medical and nursing staff, appears to support this aim.” does not make sense to me. Please revise wording.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.