Reviewer’s report

Title: Influence of muscle mass and bone mass on the mobility of the elderly: an observational study

Version: 2 Date: 17 June 2013

Reviewer: Hyehyung Shin

Reviewer’s report:

This article examines the mobility of community-dwelling elderly with body composition, in Brazil. Although these results were not surprising, the article is well-written and the findings provide substantial evidence of the association between age/BMI and mobility among the elderly, with lack of evidence for muscle and bone mass. However, there are some points to be explained for better understanding how the study was conducted.

Minor essential revisions

1. Please specify the provider, model number of DXA.
2. Please specify the software used for the statistical analyses in this study.
3. Some medications and disease conditions are known to affect the bone mineral density - Since 21.2% of the study population have diagnosed with osteoporosis and more than half of the study population have four or more medications per day, please state/explain if the study population include those who take medication/condition that affect BMD.
4. Since the majority of this study population have four or more disease, the author needs to justify the criteria for the classification of health conditions, <=4 or >4 diseases.

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.