Reviewer's report

**Title:** Subjective caregiver burden: validity of the 10-item short version of the Burden Scale for Family Caregivers BSFC-s

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 29 November 2013

**Reviewer:** Michael Rapp

**Reviewer's report:**

This interesting study examines the consistency, reliability and external validity of a modified brief 10-item version of the Burden Scale for Family Caregivers in a sample of 300+ caregivers of dementia patients. The study is well-designed, the analyses are thorough and the conclusions are supported by the data. The only concern I have is that all the external validity measures included in the study represent ratings and measurements of objective burden, and there is no measure of subjective caregiver burden included. While the associations with such objective measures clearly represent a strength of this study, the lack of a subjective measure of caregiver stress is a limitation that should at least be discussed as such in the Discussion section.

Discretionary revisions:
A revision of the English language, especially with regards to the use of definite/indefinite articles, could benefit the paper.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.