Reviewer's report

Title: Gender differences in the use of transportation services to community rehabilitation programs

Version: 1 Date: 23 October 2008

Reviewer: Naoki Ikegami

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Major Compulsory Revisions
1. Clearly state the objectives and the target population of the community rehabilitation programs (CRP)

The CRP tend to be heterogenous and also are in the process of shifting its target population: from elders to 40-64. At the very least, the time when the survey was made should be stated. More information on how the CRP is placed in relationship to the LTC insurance and health insurance should be provided. The fact that it specifically excludes beneficiaries of the LTC insurance should be noted, which brings into question why the analysis with eligibility levels was made.

2. Provide information on how homogenous or heterogenous the CRP are.
Even within Tokyo, the programs may differ. Differences in the programs are not evaluated. Without this evaluation, conclusions cannot be made.

Minor essential revisions
1. 53 programs: Are these 53 agencies or 53 programs? That is, one agency could have several programs, one focused on those who need transport, the other on those who do not. This difference is crucial for Table 3.

2. Since there appears to be little relationship between ADL and type of transportation, analyzing the relationship between ADL and sex does not have much value.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.