Reviewer's report

**Title:** Comparing the Functional Independence Measure and the interRAI/MDS for use in the functional assessment of older adults: A review of the literature

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 8 September 2009

**Reviewer:** Ying-Chih Wang

Reviewer's report:

Dear Author,

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be a reviewer for this well-written manuscript. After reviewing the revised manuscript, some suggestions under discretionary revisions are provided in the following.

**Discretionary Revisions**

a) Add more detailed information (i.e., findings of psychometric properties) in the Results session related to the MDS as you did in the FIM session.

b) Add more detailed information discussing the responsiveness in the Results session after "Eight articles investigated the responsiveness of the FIM and only three articles investigated the responsiveness of the MDS". What are their major findings in responsiveness index? (so that readers don't have to go to the Table and search for the answers)

c) Add more detailed information regarding the construct validity in the Results session. For example, "...that the FIM has a multidimensional structure defined by three to five factors", what are those factors?

d) I understand the intent from the authors, but still recommend to simplify the summary Table.

**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' below.'