Reviewer's report

Title: Late onset depression after stroke could be related to small vessel disease: Mood After Stroke: a cross-sectional case control study.

Version: 3 Date: 6 October 2010

Reviewer: Seiji Hama

Reviewer's report:

I have reviewed this revised manuscript. This manuscript examined the effect of several risk factors on the late onset depression after stroke. The late onset depression might lead by small vessels disease, which revealed with diffuse white matter lesions on MRI. The small vessels disease is thought to be occurred by several factors, including homocystein values. Thus the risk of post-stroke depression should be considered the existence of small vessels disease or its risk factors.

Revised manuscripts more clearly demonstrated the relationship between post-stroke depression and vascular risk factors. Thus I think this manuscript have potential for publication in this paper.

Seiji Hama

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

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'