Reviewer's report

Title: Visual Neglect in Posterior Cortical Atrophy

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Reviewer: Joe DeGutis

Reviewer's report:

Andrade and colleagues present interested work concerning the association between posterior cortical atrophy (PCA) and hemispatial neglect, demonstrating that neglect is more prevalent in this population than previously thought. The question posed by the authors is well-defined, the methods are appropriate and well-described, and the data seems sound.

There are some shortcomings of the article, in particular with the data analysis and discussion. If these are sufficiently addressed, I believe that this paper is publishable and would be a strong contribution to the field.

In particular with the data, it is unclear why additional analyses were not performed with patients' MRIs. The authors state in the discussion that neglect symptoms may be related to asymmetric degeneration and it would be nice to either see if this is true through displaying all patients' MRIs or better yet, measuring cortical and subcortical structures and coming up with some sort of lateralized degeneration score.

Also with the data, it is unclear why the authors did not perform correlations between PCA-related variables (years since PCA onset/ severity of PCA symptoms/ overlapping figures results) and neglect variables (line bisection / Bells / extinction). This would strengthen the authors' argument and may begin to get at the source of this association.

The discussion seemed solid but had two parts that seemed to be missing. First, it wasn’t clear what was novel about the current study compared to the Mendez study, just that the current study had more patients. Second, the discussion could have better described the possible mechanisms of the relation between PCA and neglect and fit this into current theories of neglect and parietal lobe functioning. For example, is this PCA/neglect association because when the parietal cortex is damaged, it may be more sensitive to competitive interactions between pIPS regions?

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 interest