Reviewer’s report

Title: The impact of acquired brain damage in terms of epidemiology, economics and loss in quality of life

Version: 1 Date: 16 May 2010

Reviewer: Sandrine de Ribaupierre

Reviewer’s report:

Interesting report focusing on the disability linked to acquired brain damage, the loss of quality of life and the costs linked to it.

The aim of the study is well defined, and answered in the manuscript. They are looking at the prevalence and incidence of acquired brain damage in a region of Spain. And with that population study, are also analyzing the economical costs and the loss in quality of life for the patient. The methods are well described, the cross-sectional survey. The different questionnaires used are also well described. The manuscript has good introduction, methodology, results and discussion sections. The conclusion is a bit general, and maybe could underline even more the specific findings from the study.

There are no major revisions needed.

There are a few minor revisions to be done (mostly spelling mistakes), ie:P7, line 1. “initial simple” should be initial sample

- Discretionary Revisions

It would have been interesting to find the total number of cases found using the code ICD-9-CM, we just know that 510+213 patients were selected from there.

Not sure we know how they assigned a number of hours per patient to the home support service (/h)

I am not sure whether their calculations for the prevalence of ABD due to stroke and TBI are completely justified, however I am not a statistician.

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

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