Reviewer's report

Title: Change in heart rate variability precedes the occurrence of periodic leg movements during sleep: an observational study

Version: 1 Date: 18 July 2013

Reviewer: Kiyohisa Takahashi

Reviewer's report:

Dear Sir:

The paper entitled “Change in heart rate variability precedes the occurrence of periodic leg movement during sleep: an observational study” is a very interesting and important paper, shedding the light to elucidate the involvement of autonomic nervous system in the occurrence of PLM.

The purpose of the study is clearly defined and described and the title and abstract seem to be appropriate to describe what they found. The methods are very clear and appropriate except for minor points as shown below. The authors discussed well and stated clearly the limitation of this study. Although I am not native speaker of English, the writing may be acceptable.

Therefore, I believe that the paper is acceptable as it is except for the issue my minor comments described below.

Minor points need to be considered:
#Page 13, Line 18: “HF frequency” should be changed to “HF band”
#Page 15, Line 8: “HRV variables” should be changed to “HR variables”

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.