Reviewer's report

Title: Card-Placing Test in Amnestic Mild Cognitive Impairment and its Neural Correlates

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Reviewer: Ritsuo Hashimoto

Reviewer's report:

I think the paper needs major compulsory revisions.

The authors investigated a correlation between the resting state regional cerebral blood flow determined by FDG-PET and part B scores of the Card Placing Test (CPT-part B). As the authors suggested, the CPT is a potentially useful clinical test for evaluating patients with dysfunctioning of the retrosplenial/posterior cingulate cortices.

My major concern is what sort of neuropsychological tests were administered to the subjects. The authors simply described that they administered neuropsychological tests and diagnosed aMCI according to the criteria by Peterson et al. Did the authors administered specific memory tests such as Rey-AVLT, Rey Osterreith-Complex Figure test, or subtests of Wechsler Memory Scale to subjects? If the authors did them, the results should be given. Also required are whether or not there are correlations between such memory tests or MMSE performance and regional cerebral blood flow of specific brain areas. From analyses of these, one would be able to derive clues as to whether the CPT-B is a specific test for evaluating the function of the retrosplenial/posterior cingulate cortices or its performance is merely reflective of general cognitive decline and/or general memory disturbance.

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.