Reviewer's report

Title: Multiple Causes for Delay in Arrival at Hospital in Acute Stroke Patients in Aydin, Turkey

Version: 2 Date: 12 November 2007

Reviewer: Dexter Morris

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Discussion: "Aydin study reports such rate to be at 31.6%. It could be explained that Aydin -----------"

Note the most likely explanation is the definition used for time of symptom onset if subjects had onset of symptoms while asleep ie the time they woke up with symptoms. The authors have appropriately revised the manuscript to state their definition. Most studies of stroke delay define symptom onset as the time the subject was last known symptom free ie in this case when they went to bed. Since perhaps 1/3 of patients have their stroke while they are asleep, the definition used could easily affect the percentage of patients in the <3 hour group. I would suggest mentioning this in the discussion as a possible reason for the difference in % under 3 hours compared to other studies.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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