Reviewer’s report

Title: Ischemic stroke incidence in Santa Coloma de Gramenet (ISISCOG), Spain. A community-based study.

Version: 2 Date: 24 December 2007

Reviewer: Antonio Carolei

Reviewer’s report:

Please specify also in the abstract date and year of the municipal census
Please specify which wascular studies: extra and/or intracranial
Data were adjusted to which European population?
Annual incidence should be given for first-ever in a life-time strokes. Authors also included among the incident events also stroke recurrences.
Adjustment to the World population (notably younger) is redundant. Anyhow, authors should specify which World population.
Only first-ever strokes should be considered.
Authors should comment on the different proportions of stroke etiologies according to the TOAST criteria.
A comparison of the age and sex distribution of the resident population with that of Spain should be given, in order to find out if the proportion of individuals over the age of 65 years is the same or not.
Again, I suggest to report data referring to first-ever strokes only avoiding TIA and stroke recurrences.
Death certificates should have been checked in order to identify resident stroke patients who died elsewhere.
Data referring to the resident population are not the same: in one point is reported a total of 116,220, in another 116.202, probably a typing error. Please correct.
The statement “standard European population” is incorrect. Please see the following point.
The referral populations for standardization are not appropriate. They are respectively 40 (Scandinavian standard population, 1967) and 47 years old (Segi standard population, 1960) Please refer more appropriately to EUROSTAT: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page?_pageid=0,1136184,0_45572595&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL
Please correct dyslipemia as dyslipidemia.
I suggest to remove as redundant any information referring to the World population for the above reported reasons.

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have
responded to the major compulsory revisions

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**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.