Reviewer's report

Title: Quality of life of parents raising children with pervasive developmental disorders

Version: 1 Date: 7 February 2012

Reviewer: Satoshi Takada

Reviewer's report:

Authors evaluated the QOL of parents caring for their children with PDD. They tried to explore the correlation between the QOL and the husband-wife relationship, and the personality traits. This is an interesting study in the area that needs more investigation, however, the paper suffers from the lack of some important data. Some points need clarifying and certain statements require further justification.

Major compulsory Revisions
1. The authors estimated the QOLs of the parents in comparison with those of general population.
   I speculate that the QOL score change depending on the age, gender, and marital status. In addition, the general population data was based on the study which was completed 14 years ago. They should estimate them by comparing those of age and gender matched control group.
2. However authors did not evaluated the QOL of the parents by classifying autistic disorders and other PDDs, they concluded "Not only the mothers of children with autistic disorder but also mothers of children with other PDDs had lower QOL scores than fathers, especially in the mental domains",

Discretionary revisions
1. In the correlates study, some important factors such as number of children, existence of social support, and the cognition level of children were ignored. I consider that multivariate study might be more suitable for this study.
2. I would like to recommend the authors to rewrite the tables more compact.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.