Reviewer's report

Title: Psychometric properties of the Flemish translation of the NEECHAM Confusion Scale

Version: 1 Date: 15 December 2004

Reviewer: Carla Gene G Rapp

Reviewer's report:

General: This is a strong piece of work that adds to the knowledge base related to assessment for acute confusion/delirium. Although this work is specific to a translation of a previously studied/established instrument, this information can also be of interest to those who will not be using the Flemish translation, as it bring up some interesting conceptual issues in applying the instrument to populations other than those it was originally tested on. Additionally, the findings about the physiological data are especially intriguing given that this measure is the only acute confusion/delirium measure to attempt to include these parameters. This work is also a splendid example of the use of a pre-existing data set for a secondary analysis to answer other important questions, and I commend the authors for this thrifty use of the data.

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) It appears on the version I received that there were 2 places in which commas appear instead of periods: in the statistics in the last sentence under the methods section and in the figure of the ROC curve. Someone might want to verify if these are showing up this way in the final version.

What next?: Accept without revision

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests: I declare that I have no competing interests