Reviewer's report

Title: Time Trends in Leisure Time Physical Activity and Physical Fitness in elderly people: 20 year follow-up of the Spanish Population National Health Survey (1987-2006)

Version: 2 Date: 15 September 2011

Reviewer: Astrid Chorus

Reviewer's report:

In reaction to the response of the authors.

Although some of my comments are addressed sufficiently, I still miss the broadly accepted definitions/recent literature on PA, physical fitness and sedentary behaviour and therefore I feel that some conclusions are not fully seen in that light.

I brought up the matter of physical impairments as a determinant of PA. I understand that the focus is PA, but it is known from literature that older PA-levels decrease with increasing levels of disabilities, and on the other hand intervening with PA can have a positive effect on developing disabilities. Since, ageing is associated with impairments as a consequence of function loss of the human body I still think that it is a pity that this wasn't included in the analysis.

What I meant by generalizability is how the findings in the Spanish older population can be of value to the international audience.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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