Reviewer's report

Title: Education-related differences in physical performance after age 60: a cross-sectional study assessing variation by age, gender and occupation

Version: 4 Date: 18 June 2013

Reviewer: Bjørn Heine Strand

Reviewer's report:

The authors have responded well to my comments and I think the paper has improved much and is easier to follow.

I have only two comments at this stage.

First, I suggested to include overall p-values in figs 1 and 2. I did not mean to include one p-value for each dummy category as this is evident in the confidence bands. What I meant was an overall p-value. So in fig 1, for example upper left corner for <80 years for grip strenght one p-value would be sufficient to show the overall association between educational level and grip strenght for those younger than 80 years. In total it would be 16 p-values in fig 1, not 32. Same applies to fig 2.

Secondly, in the conclusion it is stated gender and age differences in the association between education and physical performance. However in the discussion the authors point the reader to the fact that the neither of the interactions age by education nor gender by education were significant, thus one should be careful to conclude a different association across age and gender.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.