Reviewer's report

Title: Title: Validation of the new COPD Assessment Test (CAT) translated into Thai in patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Version: 1 Date: 10 October 2013

Reviewer: Benoit Arnould

Reviewer's report:

In general the article is well organised, clearly reported, and informative for future users of the CAT in Thai.

However, there are limitations, of which several need compulsory revision. The major issues are

1) the lack of data and references supporting the claimed validity for use in clinical practice (e.g., Cronbach alpha > 0.70 is considered enough for group comparison, not for individual categorisation).

2) the discrepancy between the intention to assess “discriminative validity” and actual methods and results

3) the lack of information on how the Thai version was obtained from the original one

4) shortcuts in writing, as if the authors had not taken time to accurately review the language and sentences

5) lack of references supporting a number of statements in background and discussion sections

The CAT is a good measure and the research work reported here seems to have been conducted with the appropriate methodology. However, the manuscript is closer to a draft than to a version for review. I would be pleased to make my review more detailed and constructive on a version in which references will support statements, wording and typo will have been accurately reviewed by authors, consistency between title, objective, methods, results and discussion will have been optimised.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.