Reviewer's report

**Title:** Three Years of Pulmonary Rehabilitation: Inhibit the Decline in Airflow Obstruction, Improve Exercise endurance Time, and Body-Mass Index, in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 18 February 2009

**Reviewer:** Mauro Carone

**Reviewer's report:**

I have one initial question. Were the analyses conducted on an 'intention-to-treat' basis? It is better to specify that, especially if they were not.

**Major revision**

Page 3-4. The ATS/ERS statement was NOT accompanied by a position paper that described the background, methodology and benefits for the treated patients. Moreover, citation # 7 was published in 2000 whereas the ATS/ERS statement appeared later in 2007

**Minor revision**

Page 5, Methods. Please change FEV% into FEV1%

**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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests