Reviewer's report

Title: The Conceptually Equivalent Dutch version of the Western Ontario Rotator Cuff Index (WORC)(c)

Version: 2 Date: 12 June 2013

Reviewer: Oeystein Skare

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
Page 8: Construct Validity: The hypotheses adopted from the original article are not sufficient for establishing construct validity according to the recommendations of the COSMIN group. Demographic data (age, gender, diagnostic groups etc) could be used for the purpose.
The reason for the expectations of the hypotheses are not given.
I do not understand the rational of comparing the total score of WORC with sub scores for validation. Total scores should be compared with total scores, and sub scores with similar sub scores.
Page 10: Construct validity: The first sentence does not give any meaning. Did you mean "no gold standard"? A gold standard in this case is a question of criterion validity. Anyway, a gold standard does not exist for a questionnaire unless a short version of the questionnaire is compared to a prolonged/original version.
Page 11 and abstract: Conclusion: In my opinion, there is not sufficient evidence for the statement of validity. You should either drop the validation, or follow the advices given above.

Minor Essential Revisions
The scores of WORC are given in percent. In the method section, the possibility of doing this is mentioned, but the use of percent instead of the actual score is not stated in the method section, or in the sub text of Table 4, although it is in Table 3.

Discretionary Revisions
Are you aware of that another group have published a similar study of the Dutch version of WORC (without an validation)? See Wiertsema SH et al.: Reproducibility of the Dutch version of the Western Ontario rotator cuff Index, JSES, Vol. 22, Issue 2, February 201, pages 165-170.
A comparing of your results with their, would strengthen your article.

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