Reviewer’s report

Title: Reliability and Validity of a Pattern Identification Questionnaire for Korean Stroke Patients

Version: 1 Date: 12 December 2011

Reviewer: Ali Montazeri

Reviewer’s report:

This a validation study of the PIQ for the Korean stroke patients. The study seems interesting especially its sample size is large enough for such an evaluation. However, the paper suffers from several shortcomings. I highlighted some here:

1. The relevance of the paper to CAM is not clear enough.
2. In the abstract authors state one of the five patterns but all through manuscript they introduced 4 patterns.
3. It is not clear why exclusion criteria was stated in Statistical analysis.
4. The total score and score for each domain should be indicated.
5. Table 1 is not helpful. The authors should report alpha for each domain and total items.
6. The characteristics of the study sample and not subjects! should be reported in a separate table.
7. Discriminant validity needs a prior hypothesis. What was the hypothesis here. Which domains or pattern should show worse and best condition? At present there is no a pattern indicating this.
8. The paper should revised in whole based on the above recommendations.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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