Reviewer's report

Title: The NEECHAM Confusion scale and the Delirium Observation Screening scale: predictive value and ease of use in clinical practice

Version: 2 Date: 30 January 2007

Reviewer: Catherine Niven

Reviewer's report:

General

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. The manuscript is edited to correct minor language anomalies which make it unattractive to the reader.
2. The ethical issue of consent is highlighted - see procedure page 5. Were the patients capable of giving informed consent, given that some were delirious and others had psychiatric co-morbidity.
3. The second author's role in developing are of the scales acknowledged. I'm sure this didn't bias the study but readers need to be made aware of it.

I don't think a statistical review is essential but would be desirable.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.