Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Instruments for assessing the risk of falls in acute hospitalized patients: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 15 November 2012

**Reviewer:** Anna Barker

**Reviewer’s report:**

This is a very well written, comprehensive paper on a very important topic. I wish to congratulate the authors on the rigor with which they have conducted the review.

A few minor comments:

Is there an abstract?

Please provide a reference for this:

It is estimated that over 84% of all adverse events in hospitalised patients are related to falls.

What are "safety bars"? Are these grab rails? Can a more generic label be used?

Spell out WC

What was the reason to focus on "acute" versus "sub-acute" or "rehabilitation" hospitals. Many tools have been developed in these settings?

**Level of interest:** An exceptional article

**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