Reviewer's report

Title: Process skill rather than motor skill seems to be a predictor of costs for rehabilitation after a stroke in working age; a longitudinal study with a 1 year follow up post discharge.

Version: 5 Date: 24 September 2007

Reviewer: Katherine Virgo

Reviewer's report:

General

Major compulsory revisions #s 1 & 3 were addressed by the authors. Other compulsory revisions were only partially addressed.

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

1. The figure provided in the response to major compulsory revision #2 should be added to the paper and referenced in the text.

2. The authors should enlist the assistance of a statistician in addressing major compulsory revisions #s 4 and 5 as the authors' response suggests the need for assistance.

3. In response to major compulsory revision #6, the authors state that means and standard deviations as well as medians and ranges are provided for the continuous variables in Table I. However, this has only been done for age. Days as an inpatient for both acute and rehabilitation is still provided as median and range only.

4. In response to major compulsory revision #7, the authors were asked to provide means and standard deviations OR to provide medians and ranges. Since the authors chose to provide both means and medians, standard deviations should accompany the means (just as ranges are provided for medians).

5. The authors should address in the discussion section of the paper, the limitation imposed by the highly significant intercepts in Table III & IV.

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

**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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.