Reviewer's report

Title: Constraint-induced movement therapy: trial sequential analysis applied to Cochrane Collaboration systematic review results.

Version: 1 Date: 25 July 2014

Reviewer: Graziella Filippini

Reviewer's report:

Major revision

1) In this review the inconclusive conclusion on CIMT efficacy resulted from analyses of the cumulative Z-scores for both outcomes (FIM and ARAT) disregarding the risk of bias of the included studies. I suggest to use GRADE to define the quality of evidence (not risk of bias alone), conduct a sensitivity analysis including studies of high/moderate quality level according to GRADE and consider results of the sensitivity analysis to reach conclusion.

2) The Authors should include the complete search strategies in the method section.

Minor revision

1) Risk of bias assessment

“We used all Cochrane Handbook domains for assessment of randomized”. This phrase is not completed.

“Any included trial was rated at low risk of bias in all dimensions”. This phrase is unclear. I suggest to delete it.

Did they use Cochrane criteria or Hemmingsen criteria for assessing risk of bias? The authors should clarify.

2) Meta-analysis

Use heterogeneity estimated by I2 (no inconsistency)

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.