Author’s response to reviews

Title: Diagnostic accuracy of clinical tools for assessment of acute stroke: a systematic review

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr Ardavan Khoshnood,

I would like to express our gratitude for the most helpful reviews and recommendations. I believe that our paper is much improved as a result. Please find below point-by-point responses to the comments as requested.

Thank you for your consideration!

Yours sincerely,

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Editor comments:

1. Shorten discussion

Response: Discussion section, in particular its first part, has been shortened from 964 to 643 words.

2. Shorten conclusion
Response: Conclusion section has also been shortened from 154 to 112 words.

3. Add the Mesh terms used

Response: MeSH and keyword terms used are included in the main paper (Methods section, Search strategy, page 6, line 129-135).

Reviewer 1 comments:

1. No comments for the article. For future study, recommendation for each level of health care provider on the assessment tool

Response: Giving recommendation for each level of health care provider on the assessment tool was out with the scope of the present review. However, we will definitely consider this suggestion when planning our future work.

Reviewer 2 comments:

1. The MESH terms used could have been included in the main paper

Response: MeSH and keyword terms used are included in the main paper (Methods section, Search strategy, page 6, line 129-135)

2. Discussion and conclusion are both a little long in my opinion. Especially the conclusion is long. The first part of the discussion could be shortened without loss of quality.

Response: Discussion section, in particular its first part, has been shortened from 964 to 643 words. Conclusion section has also been shortened from 154 to 112 words.