Reviewer’s report

Title: Using an accumulation of deficits approach to measure frailty in a population of home care users with intellectual and developmental disabilities: an analytical descriptive study

Version: 0 Date: 12 Nov 2015

Reviewer: Li Zhang

Reviewer's report:

Frailty is the state of nonspecific vulnerability to stressors resulting from the decreased physiological reserves and the deregulation of multiple physiological systems associated with old age. Frailty is often measured using the definition of the frailty syndrome and/or the health accumulation of deficits index approach. And the extant literatures show that Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities may be at an increased risk of frailty.

This article measured the frailty status using a health accumulation of deficits approach and identified the associations between frailty status and individual characteristics in a population with intellectual and developmental disabilities using an analytical descriptive study. The main methods of this study were well described.

The results and conclusions may be significant for the identification and measurement of frailty status and health deficits among persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. And the use of statistical analysis in this study sounds to be suitable.

The manuscript has a clear structure and well written and there is only one point need to be modified in this manuscript: the demographic characteristics of the subjects in the "Methods" parts should be shown in the "results" part. (Minor Essential Revisions)

In addition, the manuscript may need a little language corrections before being published.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?

If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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