Reviewer’s report

Title: Experiences of fear of falling in persons with Parkinson's disease - a qualitative study

Version: 0 Date: 29 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Marie Saint-Hilaire

Reviewer’s report:

This is a qualitative study of 12 patients with Parkinson Disease (PD) and Fear of Falling (FOF). Subjects were interviewed using a semi-structured questionnaire.

The strengths of the study are: 1) that all interviews were done by only one researcher, were all recorded, and reviewed by the research team to classify findings into 3 broad categories with subcategories; 2) subjects were preselected to have significant FOF; 3) the population studied was diverse in term of sex, duration of disease, use of walking aid, and living condition.

Authors show that FOF is a complex phenomenon in PD and that addressing it in patients will require an individualized approach.

There are several awkward sentences or wording that should be corrected in the manuscript (ie: 1st paragraph of Background) but these are easy to correct. The tables are appropriate.

Although the authors compare their results to findings in non PD patients in the literature, it would have been interesting to have also interviewed a group of patients with FOF but without PD to assess if themes would be different.

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.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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