**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** The Integrated Care Pathway for Managing Post Stroke Patients (iCaPPS©) in Public Primary care Healthcentres in Malaysia: Impact on Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALYs) and Cost Effectiveness Analysis

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 09 Sep 2019

**Reviewer:** Birgitta Langhammer

**Reviewer's report:**

BGTC-D-10-00128R1

Abstract: Results: The control group costs less and the results in terms of QUALYS are neutral (p=0.84) so how can you conclude that there is a greater gain?

Background:
P 7 111-12: What is meant with a "societal perspective" ? You are using EQ5D-5L a measurement of Health?
And you have your main aim, but you also had some secondary? Sensitivity analysis?
Methods:
P8 l22: who tossed the coin? Was the person blinded to the project?
And for RCT please add CONSORT protocol please.
L 28: what are the two protocols mentioned? Please describe!

P 9 : patients are post stroke at least 6 months it seems they are mainly chronic stroke in both groups. and in table 2 you say that mean duration post stroke years are 4 yrs in the conventional care and 1.29yrs in the iCAPPS , underlining the fact. BUT were the difference between them not significant???

There also seems to be a social difference between groups with a higher income in the iCAPPS group?

P 10 l 6: the primary outcome was QoL you state? But EQ 5 is an instrument that describe health and the value of health and you can make estimations of quality adjusted life years based on health. So HRQoL seems more appropriate term.

L 9: societal perspective? Meaning what? Are you referring to ICF?
P15 l 21: please answer your main hypothesis:
Was iCAPPS less expensive than conventional care?

It seems not after your analysis presented? And you come to that on p16 l19.
But then I loose track in the logic: everything is more expensive in the iCAPP but you state that the terms of cost per QUALYs are less BUT is it a significant difference? It seems not? Table 6....
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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.

No

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

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Acceptable

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