Reviewer's report

Title: Neglect-like characteristics of developmental disregard in children with cerebral palsy revealed by event related potentials

Version: 2 Date: 23 September 2014

Reviewer: catherine elliott

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. Abstract – The methods are unclear in the abstract. The participants should be in the first line of the methods. The study design then needs to be stated upfront – prospective cross sectional study. The primary outcome EEG and variables (ERP, N1...) then need comment on (there is no mention of EEG in the abstract). It is hard to follow as the design is not specified or EEG mentioned. It is also unclear in the abstract what the clinical implications are of the study. Why is it important to understand the general delay in cognitive control of motor behaviour and how will this lead to a change in assessment and treatment of children with cerebral palsy?

2. Methods – The VOAA-DDD-R is not a common assessment. Could you please include a couple of lines about its psychometric properties (Refer to Houwink 2014). This is very important that the reader is confident in how DD has been assessed and children are grouped. More information about the population would be useful. What was the sensation like for children in both groups? What was their cognition like? It would be very interesting to know how function relates to the both groups. Do the children with DD perform as well on functional measures like the Assisting Hand Assessment? These are really important factors in this study.

3. Design – can you please review the study design. I would consider it a prospective cross sectional study. For readers who have not familiar with EEG it would be useful to have a brief line about the different variables (ERP, N1...) this is covered in methods but difficult to flick back and forwards.

4. Conclusion – The link to clinical implications here is important and well explained. What therapies aimed at motor neglect night the authors recommend? Have these therapies been trailed in children with cerebral palsy?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'