Reviewer’s report

Title: Cross-cultural adaptation of the Stroke Action Test for Italian-speaking people.

Version: 3 Date: 6 March 2015

Reviewer: Olivia Geraghty

Reviewer’s report:

This study of cross-cultural adaptation of the stroke action test for Italian speaking people was well written, and the research question posed was well defined. The methods used to improve the clarity and errors in translation were clearly defined and used a process of forward and backward translation. The data reported is sound with no major errors shown. All data is presented with confidence intervals and numbers with corresponding percentages. The figures and tables are clearly presented. All data is reported within normal research standards using appropriate methodology.

Major compulsory revisions

The introduction needs more background information, such as the number of people seeking help with stroke symptoms in Italy, in order to show that this is poor relevant to other countries. The strategy was well explained and included medical and non medical researchers input, however, I don’t have any grasp as to the percentage or how much of the document was improved upon by this technique compared with a direct translation/usual practice. I feel the addition of a control group using the usual practice would clearly show how this strategy improves on existing practice.

The conclusions and discussion sections merits more work, namely to add more to what this hopes to achieve. The authors have not discussed the limitations of their work and what is original about their approach to problems involving public education.

I hope the authors address these comments, as the article has some impact on the world wide adaptation of health educational strategies, but it needs to show that the work/strategy here is easy to develop and makes a change.

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