Reviewer’s report

Title: Bridging gaps in everyday life - a free-listing approach to explore the variety of activities performed by physiotherapists in specialized palliative care

Version: 0 Date: 28 Dec 2017

Reviewer: Ryuichi Sekine

Reviewer’s report:

This descriptive article is aiming at demonstrating that what is currently provided as physiotherapy for various types of palliative care patients.

Since there are increasing interests in the roles of physiotherapy in the palliative care setting, this study will provide a very important peace of information on the contents and the exact approaches for this specific population. No other study has been demonstrating the details of what kind of supports the physiotherapists are doing in the palliative care setting, therefore, this article is highly evaluated.

One minor comments:

As authors made comment in the discussion,

some works that physiotherapists were doing can also be provided by non-medical professionals(other carers or family members or friends, etc.) or other palliative care members as well.

As medical professionals, when you work as a physiotherapist especially in palliative care setting, I think it is very difficult draw a clear line between professional work as a physiotherapist and other supporting chores/hobbies/activities that non-professional people can also do. In the future, it is good to explore how to coordinate and collaborate the care provided by medical professionals and non-professional people in terms of useful allocation of medical staff resource.

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:

Acceptable

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