Reviewer’s report

Title: A new prognostic scale for the early prediction of ischemic stroke recovery mainly based on traditional Chinese medicine symptoms and NIHSS score: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 20 August 2015

Reviewer: Arthur Sa Ferreira

Reviewer’s report:

This is a very interesting study on the prognosis of ischemic stroke by integrating Western and traditional Chinese medicine information. The manuscript is generally well written but needs further revision of English grammar to improve its overall readability. Statistical methods were properly applied and the results are sound. The Discussion covers the major findings as well as the limitations of the study.

Minor essential revisions
1) Table 2 could be sorted in descending values of correlation coefficient values for an easier interpretation of data.
2) Page 4: Please do not start sentences with “And” (lines 9 and 19, and several other pages).
3) Page 4, line 15: typo in ‘treatmen’.
4) Page 9, line 22: typo in ‘analysisd’.
5) Tables 6 and 8 might be merged because their information is quite the same.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.