Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluating Frailty in Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Clients: a Feasibility and Comparison Study between the SHARE-FI and SPPB

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Reviewer: Li Feng Tan

Reviewer's report:

I'm not

Frailty assessment in the community is a very hot topic at present. There are countless studies done on frailty assessment in the community although the authors did point out that not many have compared SHARE-FI to SPPB.

I have several questions/concerns:

1. Granted this is a feasibility study and kudos to the team for collecting the data within 2 weeks. 139 clients seems rather small to be drawing correlations between 2 instruments however especially given that some of the conclusions drawn show only weak to moderate correlation.

2. It's not apparent from the article why the authors chose to compare SHARE-FI and SPPB from the myriad of instruments available as pointed out by the authors. What about FRAIL or Frailty Index or Clinical Frailty Scale or Rapid Geriatric Assessment etc. I'm yet to be convinced that this is a truly ground-breaking study though it still has merits on its own.

3. The authors rightly pointed out that their proposal runs into issues when it comes to cognitively impaired clients. The prevalence of cognitive impairment is high in the elderly and there are likely to be many underdiagnosed cases which non medically trained staff may not be able to detect.

As such this is a fair study but I'm not sure it is particularly ground breaking or impactful.
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Needs some language corrections before being published

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