Reviewer's report

Title: Profile and predictor of health-related quality of life among hypertensive patient

Version: 2 Date: 24 February 2009

Reviewer: Christos Lionis

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor,

Thank you for inviting me to review this paper from Nigeria that reports issues on quality of life among people with hypertension. Although this paper addresses an important subject for general practice and primary care, it is written in a very descriptive manner and presents certain methodological flaws that make it not acceptable for publication under this format.

The introduction is too extensive, without any reference to the conceptual framework on which this study was built, nor the research questions posed by the researchers. Did the authors expect that quality of life of Nigerian patients with hypertension differed from that of patients in regions? Did they make any assumptions that a non-western life-style had a particular impact on hypertension outcomes? Such introduction may increase the interest of the journal's wider readership.

There are also some flaws in terms of the sampling methods. The phrase “a total sampling method was used” does not provide sufficient information to the reader. The authors are also invited to provide some information on the power and sample size estimation of the study.

Information on validation and cultural adaptation of both questionnaires used in the study is lacking. This is important in establishing that the concepts of quality of life were understood in the same manner and degree as people from other regions, outside of Nigeria.

The discussion section is very long and it contains many repetitions. The authors should be reminded that in this section they should discuss the main findings, interpret them, and consider potential biases, not simply repeat the findings. I strongly recommend that the authors re-write this section and that they use headings to highlight different parts of the discussion. Limitations of the study are not discussed and the authors are kindly invited to consider a separate paragraph at the end of the discussion section. I am also suggesting a separate paragraph, at the end of the discussion section, presenting the implications of the study.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.