Reviewer's report

Title: Assessing Nonresponse Bias at Follow-up in a Large Prospective Cohort of Relatively Young and Mobile Military Service Members

Version: 3 Date: 17 July 2010

Reviewer: Remington Nevin

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this revised manuscript, which is significantly improved from the previous submission.

The authors should be commended for taking the time to carefully address and consider the comments in my initial review. I appreciate these efforts and the explanations offered both in the cover letter and the revised manuscript.

Although I am disappointed that certain requested information has been left out, overall, the authors have adequately addressed the methodological concerns articulated in my initial review. In particular, the clarification of combat versus deployment history, the additional information provided explaining the absence of VA data, the further description of the non-response investigation, and the careful addition of well-phrased caveats regarding the MAR assumption, are satisfactory.

The manuscript is suitable for publication in its current form.

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:

There are no changes in my potential non-financial conflicts of interest as reported in my previous review. I report no financial conflicts of interest.