Reviewer’s report

Title: Measurement Invariance of the CES-D among the Chinese and Dutch Elderly

Version: 1 Date: 15 December 2010

Reviewer: Cheryl Addy

Reviewer’s report:

Abstract results: better than what? most informative relative to what?

Several instances of acronyms used without definition at first use (noted full name provided with subsequent use in at least some examples)

Numerous issues with wording that make interpretation difficult.

Detail verification: the China sample included younger women than men (55 versus 60). I don't see this as a problem, it is just counterintuitive due to women’s longer life expectancy (at least in US)

Page 8: is it appropriate to say Chinese and Netherlands VERSION of the CES-D? This could suggest an adaption of the scale, whereas in context it seems it is a translation of the scale.

From which model are the factor loadings and intercepts reported in Table 3? Loadings but not factors are presented.

Page 16: factor loadings for blues, depressed and sadness (not failure) are larger in the Dutch sample

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.