Reviewer’s report

Title: Research activity and capacity in primary healthcare: The REACH study: A survey

Version: 4 Date: 12 February 2009

Reviewer: Mieke van Driel

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have addressed most of the questions and comments and have improved the quality and transparency of the paper. However, some issues remain unclear.

Point 3. A representative sample reflects the characteristics of the source population; in other words, do the responders look like their peers who did not respond? This has nothing to do with differences or similarities between the different professional groups within the responder groups (as the authors now describe in their rebuttal). Please address this in the discussion.

Point 5. Participation in Journal clubs and EBP meetings is a reflection of the practice of using research, rather than generating it. However, it may well contribute to creating and fostering a culture of research within a practice. I realise that you do not have these data available, but mentioning this in the discussion would broaden the perspective of why we would like to encourage research in GP. There’s no point in generating research if nobody uses it!

Minor revisions: OK