Reviewer's report

**Title:** Understanding the relationship between psychological distress and healthy lifestyle behaviours to prevent vascular disease: a qualitative study of patients and general practitioners

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 29 July 2013

**Reviewer:** Barry Lambe

**Reviewer's report:**

This was an extremely well presented paper with excellent attention to detail. Very clear and succinct writing style on an important and somewhat neglected issue.

Minor essential revisions
1. Under Data Collection - delete the extra space in 'semi-structured'
2. Under Psychological Distress and the Process of....' indent and italicise quote from Female GP2
3. Under Moderators - the last 2 short paragraphs appear to describe moderators. Maybe you could consider where these belong or how better context can be applied. The work comment appears to relate to the previous section.
4. Under 'behaviour choices cause distress' similar issue here. The last 2 quotes from Rural Male 1 and 2 don't fit under this heading. Consider moving or place them in better context.
5. In the same section - grammar to be revised in sentence beginning 'GP’s described strategies....' Insert 'as'? and make 'with a level anxiety' clearer to the reader

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests