Reviewer's report

Title: Medical conditions leading to admission to a nursing home

Version: 3 Date: 19 February 2010

Reviewer: Anette Hylen Ranhoff

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions:
· There is still a wide use of citations that should be avoided, particularly in the background section and the discussion.
· The result section includes paragraphs that should have been placed under the method section (in 2. and 3. Description....) or under the discussion section (p.5 last paragraph, p.6 last paragraph and p.7 first half – to the table).
· The discussion is still too long and is lacking a critical discussion about the strengths and limitations of this study, like the design of the study and the methods used; ie. 2.1 do not include a critical discussion about possibilities for wrong classification of diagnoses.
· The discussion about an insufficient coding system (1.4 and in the conclusion) does not include other possibilities – like the ICD-10, which is widely distributed in Europe.

Generally the manuscript is still too long and inconsistent and the language is poor. A language expert should be used.

Minor essential revisions:
Page 2
"when a general review....." This paragraph does not contain interesting information and can be omitted.
"to our knowledge, no previous....." What about the studies mentioned earlier on this page?
Page 3
"International criteria og nursing homes" A reference should be given
Page 6
Table 3 - is not very interesting and can be omitted to shorten the manuscript.
The sentence "Depression have risen from 42% to 64% (p=0.003), or from 5 cases in 1993 to 9 in 2005" is difficult to understand. Percents of what?

Still many references are old and not of great relevance.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.