Reviewer's report

Title: Do social networks affect the use of residential aged care among older Australians?

Version: 2 Date: 25 September 2007

Reviewer: Jouke van der Zee

Reviewer's report:

General
By adding information about organisation and funding of long term care in Australia, the paper became more relevant for an international audience; that improved the paper essentially.

The method section has been extended, as a reaction to comments of other reviewers. Perhaps the editors shouls have a look at the general balance. In my eyes the method section isd too extensive and blurrs a good view on the content.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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I commented on the researchers jargon (variable language, too close to the computer output); the authors did their best to improve the language. But they forgot to screen the abstract; especially in the results section.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:
no competing interests