Reviewer's report

Title: Quality of life of Bahraini women with breast cancer - Middle East Perspective: A cross sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 21 February 2013

Reviewer: Eliza Whiteside

Reviewer's report:

The research is interesting and relevant to understanding the needs of women affected by breast cancer in Bahrain.

Major compulsory revisions:
1. The abstract does not sufficiently address the requirements for information as required by the journal. The background section does not state the purpose of the study, the methods do not include the statistical tests that were used and should not refer to the EORTC QLQ as the Arabic version because it is a translation rather than a different version, the results section does not include +/- SD for some of the statistics and the conclusion should be more specific.
2. The methods section requires more detail eg. on how the 'time since diagnosis' categories were determined. These are listed in the tables as 'early', 'transitional' or 'long term'. What constitutes 'systematic side effects' (line 10, Functional and Symptom scales).

Minor essential revisions (typographical errors):
Background - Western rather than western (line 10), 'similarto' (line 11), full stop after Bahrain (line 19).
Methods - survivors 'of' breast cancer not 'with' (line 9)
Results - seven rather than 7, consistency with capital letters for Table (line 4), in sub sections eg. Functional and symptom scales, and also throughout the text, remove the full stop after the bracket (line 6, Functional and symptom...)
Discussion - 'side effects' rather than 'side effect' (final paragraph, line 1).

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.