Reviewer's report

Title: A Survey of Autism Knowledge and Attitudes among the Healthcare Professionals in Lahore, Pakistan

Version: 1 Date: 8 September 2011

Reviewer: Muideen Bakare

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor,

Re: A Survey of Autism Knowledge and Attitudes among the Healthcare Professionals in Lahore, Pakistan

The study addressed important area of knowledge gap about autism spectrum disorders among healthcare professionals in a developing country of Pakistan. This is very timely because of the need to ensure early identification and interventions for affected children in developing countries. The authors are commended. However, I have the following comments:

Major Compulsory Revision

The authors have not done justice to review of relevant literatures coming from other developing countries. This will help in building background to the present study and make more robust the discussion section. The following literatures will be of relevance;

Bakare et al. (2008): Clinical Practice and Epidemiology in Mental Health; 4:17 (www.cpementalhealth.com/content/4/1/17)
Bakare et al. (2009): Annals of General Psychiatry; 8:6 (http://www.annals-general-psychiatry.com/content/8/1/6)
Igwe et al. (2010): Italian Journal of Pediatrics; 36:44 (http://www.ijponline.net/content/36/1/44)
Igwe et al. (2011): Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health; 5:1 (http://www.capmh.com/content/5/1/1)

Minor Essential Revision

There is need for language corrections before the Manuscript can be published. The authors may need to get assistance of a native English speaker.

Discretionary Revision
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