Reviewer's report

Title: Patterns of treatment seeking behavior for mental illnesses in south west Ethiopia: a hospital based study

Version: 2 Date: 24 July 2011

Reviewer: Lars Jacobsson

Reviewer's report:

Major rev.;
The text is improved a lot but there are still some issues that need to be approached.

Abstract: "Result"-The authors write that "More than half.. - That should be " Half of the patients.."

There are still quite a number of figures that have two decimals on several places eg in the Abstract 52,14 weeks..

"Methods" -The ref. nr 13 must be wrong here.

In the end of the method part is mentioned About written consent.I think the authors should include here what they write in their comments to the review.

Result - "char. of study participants" about the monthly income - here should be added " family monthly income- as they say in their comments.

"mental health seeking behav." The fig 1 is still difficult to understand and it would be good if the authors would make some more comments on how to interpret the fig.

"Determinants of delay.., As I read the table 5 it is the opposite to what is written in the text .The older people has a lower early help seeking behavior than the younger.

"Discussion" - in the end where they comment on the delayed treatment seeking of persons with attempted suicid - one possible explanation could be the stigma of suicide in this community with strong muslsim and coptic influence - this people are hesitant to show up.

References nr 4,5,6,12 and 13 are still not complete.

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.