Reviewer's report

Title: Changes in the Lifetime Prevalence of Suicidal Feelings among Norwegian Doctors from 2000 to 2010: A longitudinal Study based on National Samples

Version: 4 Date: 1 November 2013

Reviewer: Ann Fridner

Reviewer's report:

General comments
The article presents an important topic and this is analysed with a longitudinal method, which contribute to existing knowledge. The study has a large representative sample with high response-rate. The background and discussion are excellent written and the authors present a sound discussion of recall bias.

Major Compulsory revisions
1. Abstract and results. Subjective wellbeing is not a predictor to suicide feelings but is found to protect against suicide feelings.
2. The research question is original and important, but the aim to compare the Norwegian sample with a German sample is not stated.
3. Table 3. The authors should write that non-significant demographic variables were controlled for and place the names of these variables under the table. The non-significant adjusting variables are not results and should not be presented as such in the table as it is now.

Minor Compulsory revisions
1. Are the 250 added doctors in year 2008 part of the 2000 follow up?
2. The data are sound I just wish the authors look at my calculation concerning the population. If I calculated correct the total population 2010 should be; 1200 + 400 + 250 - 436 = 1414.

Discretionary Revisions
p.3 line 3: General population to make it more clear that it is not the study population the authors refer to.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.