Reviewer’s report

Title: Work Related Characteristics, Work-Home Interference and Burnout among Primary Healthcare Physicians: A Gender Perspective in a Serbian Context

Version: 1 Date: 4 May 2011

Reviewer: Briana Barocas

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting article on job characteristics, work-home and home-work interference, and burnout among primary healthcare physicians in Serbia that needs some minor revisions. There are a few issues with the article that can be fixed and I have listed these below. Overall, the article can be a little clearer in a few places. There is a useful description of the methods, although some more information is needed, and the data appears to be sound.

The issues that can be fixed are:

Discretionary Revisions
1. The title should include work-home and home-work interference.
2. The first sentence uses the term “such as” twice and it would be better if another term was used a second time.
3. An explanation is needed in the first paragraph on what makes burnout a health related issue.
4. It would be useful to back-up the following statement with the actual statistics. “In Serbia, full-time employment and dual income families are the norm.”
5. In the section on Serbian Context, more information is needed on the cultural setting.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. In the sample subsection of the methods section, more information is needed on what measures were taken, if any, to increase the response rate.
2. Additionally, in the sample subsection, information is needed on the inclusion/exclusion criteria, if any, especially given the focus on work-home and home-work interference. For example, why were participants who lived alone included?
3. In the sample subsection, descriptive statistics are included on respondents with children. However, there is no indication how old the children are (e.g., children under the age of 18). Related to this issue, in the results section, under the second research question, more information is needed on what is meant by older children (e.g., older than 12 but under 18). Additionally, no information is reported on the number of children.
4. More information is needed in the measurements subsection on the translation (if applicable) and pilot testing of the measures used.

5. More information is needed on the studies from the other European countries and what makes the data comparable to the data gathered for this study in Serbia.

6. In the discussion section, the authors need to acknowledge some additional limitations with their study. The study relies on cross-sectional data; therefore, causality cannot be assessed.

7. While the authors acknowledge the future research that is needed in this area, the article is lacking a discussion on the implications of the study for policy and practice. Additionally, the abstract should mention something about implications.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.