Reviewer's report

**Title:** Symptom load and functional ability: Results from the Ullensaker Population Study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 5 November 2012

**Reviewer:** Jan D Reinhardt

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have adequately addressed the reviewer's comments and significantly improved the paper.

I find that there are three minor essential revisions that could further improve the paper:

1. The authors could easily list the BIC values in a last column of table1.
2. The explorative findings on SES (also addressed by referee 2) reported in the cover letter on page 3-4 are highly interesting and should be mentioned in the discussion.
3. A major advantage of including number of symptoms instead of individual symptoms is that it yields a more parsimonious model which may be of major statistical relevance when smaller, e.g. clinical, populations are analyzed. This could be added to the discussion as well.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests