Reviewer's report

Title: A simple measure with complex determinants: investigation of the correlates of self-rated health in older men and women from three continents

Version: 2 Date: 12 July 2012

Reviewer: Nathalie Burkert

Reviewer's report:

The authors wrote a very interesting article in which they analysed self-rated health (SRH) in over 25000 older adults from 4 different countries, and correlates of SRH with socioeconomic, lifestyle and health indicators. The results of this article contribute towards a broader understanding of self-rated health, as well as cultural differences in this variable. In their revised manuscript the authors react to all my mentioned concerns. The article now does not need any further revision.

Since their paper is very interesting and of great importance in its field my professional opinion is that it is worth publishing.

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.