Reviewer’s report

Title: Sickness certification as a complex professional and collaborative activity - a qualitative study

Version: 2 Date: 17 July 2012

Reviewer: John G. Mæland

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript has been improved and I think it is close to publication. I upheld my objection to the authors’ statement on page 13: "No golden standard or criterion was at hand to guide his or her decisions". The publication of national normative standards for sick leave lengths for common diagnoses prior to the study, contradicts this statement. The authors are correct in that such guidelines do not solve every problem for the physicians; however, they were at hand.

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.