Reviewer's report

Title: Short-term Sick Leave and Future Risk of Sickness Absence and Unemployment - the Impact of Health Status

Version: 3 Date: 17 July 2012

Reviewer: Harald Reiso

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

This manuscript has improved!

Avoid but (ex. Abstract: illness, but few studies have...)

Abstract: Adjusting for the different measures of health status only slightly changed the effect estimates. (what way?)

Page 9, avoid only: Prevalence differences were also detected between socioeconomic groups, were only 8.0% of self-employed...

Avoid no longer, use were not: ...factors, the effect estimates were no longer statistically significant...


Page 11: In order examine the consequences of sick leave with control for health status,...

Use: In order examine the consequences of sick leave when controlling for health status,...

Avoid extensively: Hence, the analyses were extensively adjusted for self-reported and...

Ad page 12: we believe that this study has a major advantage in its extensive adjustments for both self-reported and registered ill health.

Page 13: Change: Even after adjusting for several measures of health status, short-term sick leave increased the odds ratio for future long-term sick leave.

To: Short-term sick leave increased the odds ratio for future long-term sick leave, when adjusting for several measures of health status.

Leave out: …which could be due to the short follow-up period.

Possible to simplify table 3?
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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' below.