Reviewer's report

Title: Clustering of health-related behaviors, health outcomes and demographics in Dutch adolescents: a cross-sectional study.

Version: 5 Date: 3 November 2013

Reviewer: Goof Buijs

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Major Compulsory revisions
1. In the background of the study more attention should be paid to what clustering actually means and what the specific benefits are.
2. In conclusions it is stated that behaviors tend to cluster among adolescents, but other age groups were not included in the research. Also the conclusion that clustered unhealthy behaviors are associated with poor health is to be expected. What the clustering of behaviors contribute to this conclusion needs to be specified more.
3. In 'Background'(p4) it is assumed that combined behaviors create higher health risk. This needs to be explained,
4 (page 10 and 11). I do not understand the difference between cluster 2 and cluster 3. Cluster 2 seems to include cluster 3. Please elaborate on this issue.
5. (page 12) Since cluster 3 differs from the other clusters, but the difference between cluster 2 and 3 is unclear, the conclusion needs to be revised

Minor essential revisions
1. Under Background (p 4) the argument that almost never European population was researched, is in the context of this article not strong, and should be reconsidered. What is the impact of having only North-American samples?
2. Page 5: resiliency: change to resilience
3. Page 6: 'Measures': what do you mean with 'fairly representative sample?'
4. Page 6: 'Measures': specify better what the differences are with HBSC questionnaire
5. Page 16, line 11: skip the word 'was'
6. Page 17: line 3: 'indicates': change into 'indicate'

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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