Reviewer’s report

Title: Depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation among Vietnamese secondary school students and proposed solutions: a cross-sectional study

Version: 4
Date: 24 October 2013

Reviewer: Mary C Smith Fawzi

Reviewer’s report:

Reviewer’s Report

Title: Depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation among Vietnamese secondary school students and proposed solutions: a cross-sectional study

Date: 20 October, 2013

Overall, most of the comments made by the reviewer at time of first submission were adequately responded to. However, there are a few outstanding questions and comments.

1) Before, the question of what “students’ upbringing” meant was questioned, and the authors changed this to “parent’s upbringing” (line 103). However, it is still unclear as to what exactly this entails. If they are talking about parent’s socioeconomic status or educational background, that would be helpful to spell this out.

2) The reviewer previously made the comment that ‘often being physically and emotionally abused’ should not have the word ‘often.’ If the authors wish to keep this, please provide justification.

Additionally, a few minor corrections not previously noted came to the reviewer’s attention:

1) Page 8, Mental Health, Anxiety section
Authors state ‘Female students were three times more likely to have anxiety symptoms.’ Since the probability of having anxiety symptoms in the sample was greater than 10%, the OR does not approximate the RR, and so this must be interpreted in the following manner ‘Female students had three times the odds of having anxiety symptoms as compared to male students.’

2) Page 10, The consequences of poor health
The word ‘consequences’ implies causality and temporal dependence, and should be changed to something like ‘associated with.’

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

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.