Reviewer's report

Title: Explaining the social gradient in sickness absence: a study of a general working population in Sweden

Version: 2 Date: 10 April 2013

Reviewer: Karl Bang Christensen

Reviewer's report:

This article has not improved much, and since the authors have decided not to follow up on all reviewer comments beyond stating 'To use individual item responses is a good idea ... we chose the use of an index' I feel most comfortable advising against publication.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.