Reviewer's report

Title: Intimate partner violence and help-seeking - a cross-sectional study of women in Sweden

Version: 5 Date: 24 May 2013

Reviewer: Marie Gantz

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
It is still not clear to me why the authors claim that small numbers will not allow for foreign born and IPV in the past year to be included in the model, particularly when other variables that are included (in a relationship with perpetrator, new partner) have cell sizes that are just as small. However, it is not possible to know exactly how many women fall into each category because the total number analyzed in each group is never stated in the text or in the tables. It would have been helpful to have a better explanation about why the two covariates are excluded from the model; from the information given it does not seem like the cell sizes should be too small, and the variables are significantly different in the help-seeking and non-help-seeking groups which makes their inclusion in the model seem crucial. However, the authors did explain how the results differed by the foreign-born and IPV in last year subgroups which was helpful.

Minor Essential Revisions
Please provide the number of women included in the final analysis in the help-seeking and non-help-seeking groups.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.