Reviewer's report

**Title:** Incidence Rates of Sickness Absence Related to Mental Disorders: A Systematic Literature Review

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 2 January 2014

**Reviewer:** Marianna Virtanen

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have revised the manuscript in general well. However, I still have two points which bother me:

The study of Mittendorfer-Rutz et al. (PlosOne 2012) was excluded. However, in Table 1, the incidence rates of sickness absence due to mental disorders is reported see: http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0045788 According to your eligibility criteria (p.7-8) this study is eligible.

Please correct the following (p.10): "There was variability in the number of absence days needed to qualify for sickness absence benefits. The number of days ranged from 3 to 90 days" ---> "There was variability in the number of absence days needed to qualify for sickness absence benefits. In addition, the Finnish study [24] examined the incidence of >90 days' absence due to limited availability of data."

This is very important because in Finland people qualify for compensation after 9 days, not after 90 days.

**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.