Reviewer's report

Title: Health related quality of life of immigrant children: towards a new pattern in Germany?

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Reviewer: Monika Bullinger

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The paper describes health related quality of life (HrQoL) in 3-5 years old children and finds insignificantly higher HrQoL in migrant versus native children in spite of differences in socio-economic status. The following points should be addressed in a revision of the paper:

1. Introduction: Changes in “migration regime” as observed from the US should be linked to the situation in Europe. Please cite relevant data supporting such change in Europe.

2. Methods: Please indicate the reliability of the Kiddy-KINDL in the current sample.

3. Methods: Please describe the reason for including the kindergartens in one area along with a clarification of the representativeness of the sample.

4. Methods: Please describe how interviewers were trained and how the data collection procedure was specifically carried out (e.g. presence of parents).

5. Methods: As regards statistical analysis please indicate why separate regression models were run, considering also the low sample size in the native children. Instead of running two models, one for migrant one for non-migrant children, one model on all children could have been run taking migration status as one of the predictors.

6. Methods: An important issue is the specification of the migrant background. It makes a difference whether one or two parents were born outside of the country of current residence as does the language spoken at home. Since birth place of parents seems to be available, this variable should be included in the analysis. First or second generation status has been reported to impact highly in psychosocial outcomes.

7. Results: The abstract describes differences in quality of life between migrants and natives, yet the results indicate that there are no significant differences in line with table 2.

8. Results: Please provide in tables 4 and 5 the explained variance of the regression model.

9. Results: Please give indication of the intercorrelation of the dependent variables and explain why specific variables collected (WET, PERIK) were not included in the analyses.

10. Concerning the tables: Please subdivide Asian origin in table 1. Does this
include Turkey, and how high is the percentage?

11. The paper should be checked for style of writing. For example on page 5 the sentence “however along the paper were going to talk about migrants versus native born children to simplify” or the term “older aged” at page 10 children as well as the minor aspects of writing should be revised.

12. Furthermore please explain why the area of education i.e. the specific kindergartens would be more important than the status of the family (1st generation, 2nd generation, etc…) or the origin of migrants families including this as well in the model.

13. It would be preferable to separate results from the discussion section in the paper.

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.