Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with intention to adhere to recommendations for follow-up after an abnormal colorectal cancer screening result in Japan

Version: 2 Date: 14 August 2006

Reviewer: Annette E Maxwell

Reviewer's report:

General
This is an interesting paper reporting findings of a survey in Japan on factors associated with intentions to adhere to follow-up exams of colorectal cancer screening exams. The survey is theory based and the survey items are well explained. The data analysis is appropriate. Limitations of the study are described.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

The title could be misleading, as I was expecting a survey among subjects who had actually received a recommendation for follow-up after CRC screening. However, the survey is conducted among subjects who obtained CRC screening. At the time of the survey, nobody had actually received a recommendation for follow-up diagnostics. I would suggest changing the title (and accordingly the text) to "Factors associated with intentions to adhere to colorectal cancer screening follow-up exams".

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
I would recommend shortening the paper a bit for easier readability. For example, in the section predictor variables, it is not necessary to discuss the items that have not been included in the analysis. It is also not necessary to describe the details of how items have been changed after the pretest. The finalized items that are included in the analysis are the most relevant. If items are listed in the table, the authors could refer to that table without listing the items in the text.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No