Reviewer's report

Title: Regional differences in multidimensional aspects of health: findings from the MRC Cognitive Function and Ageing study

Version: 2 Date: 25 January 2006

Reviewer: Ramune Kalediene

Reviewer's report:

General
The results are interesting, however, the discussion is not well elaborated and does not disclose "multidimensional aspects of health", as it could be expected from the title of the paper. There is not clear conclusion formulated.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
Figure 2 is confusing and not clear - what the numbers on the pentagons mean? It seems like results could be influenced by different age and educational structure in the regions - this should be discussed. In the discussion, there are no hypotheses presented on the possible reasons of territorial considerable inequalities, which would be most interesting and could lead to some practical suggestions, important for international readers.

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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)
In the abstract, confusing abbreviations should not be used.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
To change the form of Fig. 2.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests