Reviewer’s report

Title: A Closer Look at the Increase in Suicide Rates in South Korea from 1986-2005

Version: 1 Date: 13 September 2008

Reviewer: Robert Donald Goldney

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These results are important as they highlight differences in suicide between different countries. Other examples of countries with different patterns could be given (e.g. Australia/New Zealand/US), but the overall thrust of the paper is a good example of the need to be aware of socio-cultural context. Having noted that, have there been issues re provision of psychiatric/mental health services eg closure of hospitals? Thus only social issues seem to have been considered. Also, I would seek re-assurance from a statistician that analyses are appropriate.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests.