Reviewer’s report

Title: Physical activity is associated with a low prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders in the Royal Norwegian Navy: a cross sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 12 April 2007

Reviewer: Karin I Proper

Reviewer’s report:

General

The authors have done an excellent job in revising the manuscript and took into account most of the comments. However, I still do have some comments, before making a decision on publication.

1. the authors have performed separate analyses for light and heavy physical activity, but they haven’t showed the results. I regret this, particularly because of the association found between light PA en MSD.
2. As to the association between light PA en MSD, I need a section in the discussion describing some explanations for this association, because the results are not that logical! I rather would expect an association between heavy PA and MSD instead of light PA and MSD. So, how can the results be explained? This has not been addressed sufficiently.

Further, I (still) have some serious doubts about the PA measures used, and their reliability and validity.

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

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)