Reviewer’s report

Title: End-of-life care in Germany: First results of the cross-sectional EPACS study.

Version: 1 Date: 18 March 2010

Reviewer: Mitsunori Miyashita

Reviewer's report:

Comments:
This is an interesting study. The mortality follow-back survey is valuable to evaluate end-of-life care. I recommend the author to collect following points;

1. In the title, the full spelling of EPACS should be described.
2. The full text of HOPE questionnaire should be described in appendix.
3. The figure 2 should be by pie chart or band chart. In this type of data, the total percentage of bar should be 100%.
4. From figure 4 to 7, also, figures should be by band chart.
5. The related factors to the satisfaction and HOPE questionnaire should be explored.
6. The information about cause of death should be described. This is most important variable. If you could not get this data, you should estimate from census, etc.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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 that I have no competing interests