Reviewer's report

Title: Mammography screening: views from women and primary care physicians in Crete

Version: 3 Date: 30 September 2008

Reviewer: Marvella Ford

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Manuscript Title: Mammography Screening: Views from Women and Primary Care Physicians in Crete

Major Compulsory Revisions

The manuscript is significantly improved. It now includes a clearly described conceptual framework, the model of transcultural health care utilization. Some changes could still be made to improve the clarity and focus of the manuscript. For example, the Abstract does not describe the breast cancer mortality rates in Greece. It is not clear how they compare with breast cancer mortality rates in other areas of the world. Similarly, the Abstract does not include information pertaining to the mean age (with range and standard deviation) of the study participants. The focus of the last two sentences in the Abstract is unclear. It is not clearly described what physicians will do with the information presented in the manuscript.

On page 3, the authors do not describe how local initiatives were designed or what their results were. What were the outcomes of these local initiatives? Also on page 3, the authors state “… use of the private sector, including private diagnostic centres, is on the increase”. However, the authors do not describe which groups are showing the increase. Are the sociodemographic characteristics of people who use private diagnostic centers different from those who do not?

In the Analysis section on page 9, it is not clear whether all data transcriptions were analyzed by the same person. If so, this is not recommended. It would be better to have qualitative data analyzed by more than one person.

There needs to be an introduction to the Results section. This section could begin by describing the sociodemographic characteristics of the study participants. More than one quote could be used to support the claim on page 11 that “this may suggest that doctors enjoy high status and are revered by some women in Crete.”

On page 12, the first sentence in the first full paragraph (which begins “Of the 15 women…” could be moved to the first paragraph in the Results section, along with other sociodemographic information related to the study participants.

On page 14, it is not clear why the ages of participants are described in relation
to some of the responses, but not all? This is inconsistent reporting. Also on page 14, more than one quote would be needed to support the major point related to the statement “displaying a trust in physicians to recommend screening if they needed it.”

On page 22, the paragraph that begins with “In response to…” is too vague. The impact of predisposing factors on knowledge and use of mammography screening is not adequately described.

Minor Essential Revisions
As a minor point, “data” is plural, so the phrase “data were” could be substituted for “data was.

On page 16, the statement “Of the remainder…” is unclear. Remainder of what?

On page 18, the phrase “to be screened” could be added to “women in the appropriate age range.”

On page 19, the word “after” following “appointments” could be deleted because the word “after” appears again later in this sentence.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**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.