Reviewer's report

Title: To predict factors associated with Breast Self-Examination behavior in a sample of Iranian women: An Application of Health Belief Model

Version: 2 Date: 4 March 2009

Reviewer: ilknur aydin avci

Reviewer's report:

A study related use of breast cancer screening practices is an important topic, especially with women in a country such as Iranian. The topic of breast cancer is important to public health and in countries where mammography is not readily available, BSE may be the screening method of choice.

***Additionally, the reported findings do not offer any new information on the topic. In this reason, it must be written how is this study different? The list of recommendations presented at the end of the manuscript is not different than the recommendations of most similar studies. What new information does the results of this study offer to the practitioner?

***Summary; Aim of study should be written as separate.

***A discussion of the efficacy of BSE in detecting breast cancers early is also needed. That discussion should also include the results of the clinical trials related to BSE conducted in Russia and Shanghai.

***Study methods need to explained in more detail. The study sample is not explained completely. Why were chosen 30 women from eight health center as the sample? How is chosen these women, which method is used? What was the power analysis for this study?

***What health services are given in these centers, primary, secondary or tertiary? And are these women healthy or sick? This status is important in health beliefs. It must explained.

*** It must given minimum and maximum scores of subscales. Readers want to know what it means these scores.

***What is women’ BSE knowledge rate.

Ilknur Aydin Avci

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
A study related use of breast cancer screening practices is an important topic, especially with women in a country such as Iranian. The topic of breast cancer is important to public health and in countries where mammography is not readily available, BSE may be the screening method of choice.

***Additionally, the reported findings do not offer any new information on the topic. In this reason, it must be written how is this study different? The list of recommendations presented at the end of the manuscript is not different than the recommendations of most similar studies. What new information does the results of this study offer to the practitioner?

***Summary; Aim of study should be written as separate.

***A discussion of the efficacy of BSE in detecting breast cancers early is also needed. That discussion should also include the results of the clinical trials related to BSE conducted in Russia and Shanghai.

***Study methods need to explained in more detail. The study sample is not explained completely. Why were chosen 30 women from eight health center as the sample? How is chosen these women, which method is used? What was the power analysis for this study?

***What health services are given in these centers, primary, secondary or tertiary? And are these women healthy or sick? This status is important in health beliefs. It must explained.

*** It must given minimum and maximum scores of subscales. Readers want to know what it means these scores.

***What is women’ BSE knowledge rate.