Reviewer's report

Title: Knowledge about complementary, alternative and integrative medicine (CAM) among registered health care providers in Swedish surgical care: A national survey among university hospitals

Version: 1 Date: 21 February 2012

Reviewer: Tobias Sundberg

Reviewer's report:

Overall a well written and executed study.

Major compulsory revisions:

1. Please provide the reader with a copy of the final questionnaire that was used, preferably as an appendix/attachment.

2. Methods/study design: Why was not the participants' "personal usage of CAM therapies" and "education in and performance of CAM" reported in the study? These topics may likely relate to the participants' knowledge of CAM as well as some of the inter professional findings reported in the article, for example the recommendations of CAM by the different professions. Adding the above questions in the analyses might hence be of value and provide additional leverage to the findings, the discussion and the overall impact of the study. Please provide some further details and elaborate on this in the article.

Minor essential revisions:

3. Abstract/general: The abstract might better reflect the article if the findings to some extent were reported per profession, i.e. MD, RPT, RN.

4. Abstract/results: "Therapies recommended by >40% of the participants were massage and acupuncture." – Please provide some further details if possible. Recommended in general? For surgical patients? This may also be relevant to consider in the results and discussion sections of the article.


6. Methods/definitions: Might it be relevant to consider that "Integrative Medicine" is a MeSH term since year 2009 (PubMed)?

7. Methods/study design: Was all pre-testing done at the same hospital?

8. Results: The first paragraph referring to Table 2: "...with nurses comprising the most dominant profession (70.6%; n total = 725)". Should that read 70.4%; n total
737? Please review and clarify where to find those figures in the table.

Discretionary Revisions:

9. Discussion: The fourth paragraph "...beginning of the century"; please detail which century.

10. Discussion/methodological limitations: Last sentence, fourth paragraph "... professions towards CAM"; consider rephrasing "... professions in Swedish surgical care towards CAM."

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests