Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and factors associated with the use of complementary and alternative medicine practitioners in 8 countries of the former Soviet Union

Version: 4 Date: 14 January 2013

Reviewer: Brian P Hinote

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Second Peer Review for BMC Complementary & Alternative Medicine
“Prevalence and factors associated with the use of complementary and alternative medicine practitioners in 8 countries of the former Soviet Union”
14 January 2013
Brian P. Hinote, PhD

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
Research question is well-defined.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
Yes.

3. Are the data sound?
Data are indeed sound. I am quite familiar with these data, and the LLH set is a strong, valid, and reliable one.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
Overall, yes.

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
Overall, yes.

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
Yes.

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
Yes.

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Title and abstract are both informative and appropriate to findings.

9. Is the writing acceptable?

Overall the writing is acceptable.

- Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore)

Suggested changes addressed.

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

Suggested changes addressed.

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

None.

Publish? Y/N

I recommend publication of this manuscript.

**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:**

No competing interests.