Reviewer's report

Title: Design and Validation of the Health Professionals' Attitudes Toward the Homeless Inventory (HPATHI)

Version: 2 Date: 9 December 2004

Reviewer: David Buchanan

Reviewer's report:

General

This study describes the creation and preliminary validation of a new survey assessing health professional's attitudes toward homeless patients. A survey of this kind does not currently exist in the United States and it represents a contribution to those who study and teach about this topic. The authors have adequately responded to my initial comments on the manuscript.

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

Discussion, paragraph 2: "Results of the extreme group comparisons showed that experience with the homeless, rather than medical training, is a significant factor that affects health-care professionals attitudes towards the homeless..."
Because this is a cross sectional study, it is impossible to say whether experience affected attitudes or whether those with more positive attitudes sought out more experiences. Instead of "affects", consider "correlates with".

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.