Reviewer's report

Title: Psychosocial Health Risk Factors and Resources of Medical Students and Physicians: a cross sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 14 March 2008

Reviewer: Barbara Buddeberg-Fischer

Reviewer's report:

ad abstract, first sentence in results)
It should be clearly stated that this study is a cross-sectional and not a longitudinal one.

ad background
More actual literature of similar studies should be comprised (eg. McManus, Buddeberg-Fischer et al., Tyssen et al).
The term "impairment" (WHO definition, means "Schädigung") is too strong and should be avoided in this context.

ad methods)
The description of the sample is missing. In the physicians' sample their speciality should be mentioned. At the beginning of "results" it is misplaced.
In the first sentence of "instruments" AVEM has to be referenced.
page 6, second paragraph, "Cluster analysis...": The literature of Schaarschmidt should be inserted.

ad statistical analysis)
The statistical analysis should be indicated for each hypothesis with independent and dependent variables (two factorial analyses of variance MANCOVA: independent variables: gender and addressed subsample (first year, fifth year, physicians))

ad results)
First paragraph: see above.
It is necessary that in all the analyses covariates like age, civil status, specialty have to be included. Thus differences between groups can be considered. This is an essential point in the analyses.

ad discussion)
It must be adjusted to the results of the covariance analyses. The meaning of the different response rates in the groups have to be discussed.

ad table 2)
Means and SD should be indicated, also main effects of gender and addressed subsample and their interaction.

**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'