Reviewer's report

**Title:** Malnutrition and responsibility in elder care - high-level decision-makers' ethical reasoning. An interview study

**Version:** 7  **Date:** 6 May 2010

**Reviewer:** Andreas Stuck

**Reviewer's report:**

Overall, I think the authors adequately responded to the reviewer comments. In the present form, the article adequately describes methods and results of this unusual research project.

If I understand correctly, the Journal publishes the review process as well, including the comments of the authors to the reviewer.

The combination of the shortened article with the additional information provided by the authors (comments to reviewers) gives an adequate insight into findings and relevance of this project.

There is one rather technical note. I think, in its current form, it will be very difficult to find the article.

I recommend to reconsider the title, and to find a title, which is better understandable, and more attractive. For example: Malnutrition in elder care: qualitative analysis of ethical perceptions of politicians and civil servants.

In the methods section of the abstract, the authors should describe that they use a qualitative approach for data analysis.

Apart from these minor changes, I recommend acceptance and publication without further adaptations.