Reviewer's report

Title: Low proportion of intent to stay in the nursing profession among nurses working in Amhara Regional State Referral Hospitals, Ethiopia: Institution-based cross-sectional study.

Version: 1 Date: 26 April 2014

Reviewer: Roy Carr-Hill

Reviewer's report:

1. Major Compulsory Revision

Depending on the sample sizes of the other studies, your primary estimate of Intent-to-Stay of 40% (s.e. = 2.5%) may not be statistically significantly different from the findings of Korea, Hungary and Taiwan; the only comparison worth commenting on – although it is from a developed country – is Ireland. And, given that the Irish study was published in 2007, using data probably from about 2005, the obvious current explanation that recession makes nurses want to stay in the job they have got won't stand up, unless the Ethiopian Amhara nursing labour market is very vibrant, because the Irish nursing labour market before the recession was itself vibrant.

Minor Essential Revisions

2. There is no need to repeat AOR[95% CI]; just introduce and explain once in the Methods section of the text; don't include AOR [CI] in abstract.

3. Definitely don’t use 4 sig. figs. when your N is 389 and be careful about use of 3 sig. figs.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'