Reviewer’s report

Title: A qualitative study of nursing student experiences of clinical practice

Version: 1 Date: 2 August 2005

Reviewer: Elisabeth Severinsson

Reviewer’s report:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to read this paper again and note that some of my previous suggestions have been taken up. In general this was a clearly written paper. The authors have made some changes that I welcome. However, I have some comments since there still are some deficiencies in the manuscript:

1. on page 4 it would be helpful with a heading named data analysis.

2. I am still nor sure of the type of analysis the authors are doing. Some concepts at page 5 are in the tradition of Grounded theory?? Like line 8 from the top ‘ substantive codes’ and further down ‘ comparing’, page 6 ‘ comparative analysis’. On page 9 the concept ‘ themes’ is used, which I think is more correct.

3. For me it looks like the authors have done a qualitative content analysis. I suggest the article of Graneheim U.H & Lundman B (2004) entitled: Qualitative content analysis in nursing research: concepts, procedures and measures to achieve trustworthiness. This article is printed in Nurse Education Today 24, 105-112. The content from the data text can be interpreted and different level of abstraction can be made. This has been done and are shown in The Figure 1 (I should called it Table 1): This is a good description of the different steps in the analysis.

4. Is the theme ‘Initial clinical anxiety’ (page 7) the main theme? Or if you prefer main category? Or does it have the same status as the other three? If they are the ‘same’ please omit page 9 the second sentences under the heading discussion the word ‘main’.

5. page 7 there is a statement from one of the nursing students….On the first day… the last sentences How you can look after me… should be How can you look after me…

6. page 7 in the text it says On of the students said. Please change the word said to expressed. Further down it can be corrected as well. You may use the word reported if you like.

7. page 9 the authors refer to Behyars and Nurses Aids with numbers I and 2. However, I cannot see the explanation of it in the text.

8. page 11 under the heading conclusion. ‘ The focus groups data analysis revealed… it is the text of the findings that showed!


Overall, I would like the authors to consider my comments and I wish them good luck. I think this paper can be published after minor revision.