Reviewer's report

Title: Oncology patients' and professional nurses' perceptions of important nurse caring behaviors in Iran

Version: 2 Date: 1 March 2010

Reviewer: Maura Dowling

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential revisions:
1. Please correct incorrect use of apostrophe is some instances, especially with pleural; e.g. nurses' perceptions; patients' and nurses' perceptions; patients' satisfaction

2. Under 'ethical considerations', should the following be 'written and oral informed consent'? (In the text, it appears as 'written or oral informed consent').

3. In the discussion section, the word 'manual skills' is better replaced with 'psychomotor skills'.

4. In the discussion section, in the paragraph beginning with 'The study also found that...', should it be written 'The study also found that there are some agreements...' (instead of 'The study also found that these are some agreements...').

Discretionary revisions
1. It would be useful to mention something about the different stages of the cancer trajectory that the patients were on and how they still were in agreement on the meaning of caring to them. I mention this because of other work which suggests that cancer patients early in their treatment journey focus more on the nurses' psychomotor skills and those later on in their recovery focus more on the psychological aspects of care delivery.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.