Reviewer's report

Title: Low trust of ethnic minority patients in in-hospital care: a qualitative study

Version: 2 Date: 16 April 2010

Reviewer: Irena Papadopoulos

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Major Compulsory Revisions
The article did not live up to my expectations. In my view more clarity needs to be provided regarding the methodology; for example: different approaches to data collection are mentioned such as face to face interviews, telephone interviews, interviews using the voice of a daughter, focus groups. The authors need to discuss the effects their approaches had on the quality and nature of the data they collected. There is also a predominance of Turkish women in the sample (14 out of 23 or it could be 22 if the interpreter is not counted). What effect has this had? We need to be told how many of the participants were women and how many were men; does gender have any effect on the analysis? The ethnic make up of the sample is not given either (other than 14 of them are Turkish women). This is important and I expected the analysis to tease out the gender and ethnicity angles. The authors also should report how many of the participants were interviewed in their own language and how many in Dutch and discuss the impact of using interpreters to collect data particularly as they decided to include the experiences of one of the interpreter which were shared during data collection.

The themes are repeated several times and the discussion repeats the results. The discussion should provide a more robust theoretical reference to what the results mean rather than the rather superficial one with numerous sweeping statements such as 'the study provides insights into conditions in hospitals that are destructive to trust' which in my view is not adequately evidenced in the results section.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests: 'I declare that I have no competing interests'