Reviewer's report

Title: Safety Culture in the Maternity Units: a census survey using the Safety Attitudes Questionnaire

Version: 3 Date: 12 June 2011

Reviewer: Dimitrios Siassakos

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory:
The manuscript is still difficult to read and needs serious grammatical revision. For example, the sentence "Professionals working in small size facilities, as in the case of midwives in Cyprus, because they work for many years together, they know each other better and processes are less explicit, and they share more responsibility towards patient safety" is grammatically wrong. "Expertise" is inappropriately used - you probably mean "experience", and so on.


The data analysis still fails to describe accurately and comprehensively the statistical tests used (eg correlations). Moreover, the text describes correlations using r and p, and the Tables show only univariate t-tests. I did state last time that multivariate analysis was more appropriate, and can I please insist so.

Please delete the retrospective power calculation otherwise you will infuriate statisticians and methodologists.

From an interpretation point of view, the teamwork climate and safety climate were actually low in your study, and this should be reflected in the discussion.

There is also a problem with the references in this version. References 20 and 24 are confused at places; there is a chance that they are not accurately interpreted as well (but I am not sure because of the confusion in numbering them).
Finally, the limitations are only outlined; I would rather they were better described and argued.

Minor Essential:
Abstract:
You neglected to change "fewer" to "less"
"Rated higher the following domains" (without "in")
They did not "score higher in" - they "rated these domains higher"
Please change IQR from a single number to the actual range which will be more informative.
My name is still mispelt in the Discussion!

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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