Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors and symptoms associated with work stress and health-promoting lifestyles among hospital staff: a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 7 May 2012

Reviewer: Olaf von dem Knesebeck

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for considering my comments on the previous version of the manuscript. I still have doubts concerning language, methods, and some statements in the text.

- You should avoid phrases like "Female workers were found to have a significantly higher chance of developing stress-related symptoms..." that indicate a prospective design.

- You conclude that "this study showed that participants believed that they had relative little decision-making authority and a relatively high need for support from coworkers and supervisors." (p. 13, see also p. 17) I don’t understand this conclusion. Do you have a benchmark or a comparison with other occupational groups in mind? Please provide references.

- It should be mentioned in the title that this is a pilot study and that it is a study from Taiwan.

- Please describe the measurement of symptoms of work related stress.

- Please introduce all abbreviations in the text.

- There is an underlined sentence on page 5.

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.