Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Perception of evidence-based practice and the professional environment of Primary Health Care nurses in the Spanish context: A cross-sectional study

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 5 February 2012

**Reviewer:** Sally Kendall

**Reviewer’s report:**

This is a well constructed paper reporting on a ubiquitous issue in nursing. It is of course imperative for the delivery of high quality nursing care and improvement in practice that the ability to translate evidence into practice is considered. The authors have examined this in relation to primary care nursing, arguably the most important workforce in nursing for future health care systems. They use the EBPQ that has been validated in Spain. The setting is the PHC system of the Balaeric Islands. This is surely an important consideration as whilst the response rate was high at 60%, one would infer that the Balaeric Islands have their own culture and health care environment that differs from the rest of Spain and Europe. Therefore these findings may not be generalisable to other communities and this should be commented on more robustly. Also Gerrish et al. 2007 did undertake a study of community nurses in England which merits some reference as there has been very little research undertaken on community/PHC nurses. Whilst direct comparison is not appropriate, it may be useful to consider whether in fact there are any similar trends or major differences. The authors remark on the findings that nurses with less experience are apparently more skilled/knowledgeable about putting evidence into practice, perhaps context is important here and should be examined more closely. Was any qualitative data collected that may help to explain some of the findings further? There are a number of small errors in the use of English throughout the paper that the authors should seek professional proofreading on.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I do have professional contact with one of the authors, JM Morales-Ascencio