Reviewer's report

Title: A taxonomy of nursing care organization models in hospitals

Version: 2 Date: 30 April 2012

Reviewer: Walter Sermeus

Reviewer's report:

All major comments are well taken and integrated in the text, but explanations about the statistical analysis are still unsatisfactory. Table 2 and 3 are useful. The analysis path is well described and only the aggregated data on the level of the nursing unit are used (what is a pity to lose the individual variability where available). But it is still unclear which data/variables are used in the SPAD-analysis (raw data on the dimensions, grouped data (low, mod, high), unit ranking as well? Table 5 is more detailed than table 2 and 3.

The use of the factorial scores from SPAD into hierachical clustering should be evaluated by a statistician and it should be asked how these results could be best reported.

note: minor remark

Table 5, column 2, row 7, "number of units with high or moderate score" should be "number of units with high score"?

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