Reviewer's report

**Title:** Development and psychometric properties of a-scale for measuring internal participation from a patient and health care professional perspective

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 28 June 2013

**Reviewer:** Antje Hammer

**Reviewer's report:**

Major compulsory revisions:
1. My first main concern is related to the 3. Item. The authors commented a change wording, but there with the meaning of the item changed as well. In relation to this the factor loading in figure 2 were modified, but the results in the tables were not. Please explain these revisions.
2. Development of IPS-scale (p.7): In the first paragraph the authors mention 7 dimensions: communication, coordination, cooperation, climate, respect, task-reflexivity and relation-reflexivity. However in the second paragraph you mention 6 items: 4 items representing the 3 dimensions (communication, coordination and cooperation), one item for respect and 1 item for climate. Which items represent the dimension task-reflexivity and relation-reflexivity considered in the development process? According to this, the linkage between the first and the second paragraph is not clear. In addition, please state your reasons for considering the two dimensions task-reflexivity and relation-reflexivity. Why these two are such fundamental dimensions.

Minor essential revisions:
1. Again and in relation to point 2. It is still not clear, if the authors adapted single items from the variety of existing teamwork measures or if the items heave been completely new developed. In second case your argumentation still clarifies the selection of the single aspects communication, coordination etc., but it does not substantiate the selection and wording of the items itself.
2. Sample characteristics of staff (p.12): should be aged between 36 and 55? Consider to mention the two classes separately in the text.
3. P.10/line 3: a minimum value of .7 for Cronbach’s alpha
4. Check dots (e.g. p. 4), squared brackets (e.g. p. 11) and spaces between values and %-signs (e.g. p. 12).

Good luck with the paper!

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.