Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of paediatric nursing-sensitive outcomes in an Australian population using linked administrative hospital data

Version: 1 Date: 26 May 2013

Reviewer: Sanna Salanterä

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for letting me review this interesting paper with a very current topic. The article is overall well written, but there are some major and some minor revision that should be done.

Major revisions:

1. Both in abstract and in results section, terms increased and decreased risk have been used, even though the data does not permit this kind of result. Instead one should use greater/lower risk. (the risk was greater with each younger age group. This should be corrected through out the text.
2. In background pg 5. para 2. last line: rephrase the sentence risk of developing nursing sensitive outcomes... children perhaps do not develop outcomes, perhaps conditions or something similar.
3. In method section pg. 6. it would be good to know, how well was the possible hospital-discharges covered. Were all hospital records electronic, or in what format where they, and what type of data was available.
4. pg 7, first full para: please explain what were the logical checks, who did them, and was there a lot to clean?
5. Next para: last sentence is not clear. should it be ...for each patient’s each admission. ?
6. Pg 8, para 1. least and most disadvantaged, categories do not make snece, if there were only two. Could they just be advantaged and disadvantaged?
7. The end part of para 2, pg. 8 should be moved to results section.
8. Ethical consideration: Since in several countries this kind of data is very strongly protected by laws, it would be good to report, who gave permission to access the data and what kind of process was that?
9. Discussion: pg 16, please give an explanation, what you mean with care bundle in this connection.
10. Congratulations for this article. It was a joy to read.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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' below.