Reviewer's report

Title: Determinants of financial performance of home-visit nursing agencies in Japan.

Version: 2

Date: 6 November 2013

Reviewer: GOHEI KATO

Reviewer's report:

The authors conducted an important study which might contribute to improve the home visit nursing system in Japan.

However, this manuscript needs some major compulsory revision.

Major revision

Introduction

1. Please show the reasons why the number of 6,000 and 60,000 are small.
2. Please show the reasons why the limitations of the financial performance are related to the shortage of the number of agencies.
3. This reviewer thinks more explanations about the reason why the present study examined the relationship between quality of care and the financial performance might be necessary.
4. Please describe what is the novelty or originality of this research in comparison to the past related studies.

Statistical analysis

1. Please show the degree of the fitness of the generated multinomial logistic regression model in this study.

Discussion

1. This author mentioned about the limitation of this study is cross-sectional study. However, in the discussion section, there are some expressions as if the causality is examined in this study (e.g. P11L6-, there also might be the possibility the profitable agencies have surplus for employing the rehabilitation staffs). Therefore some modification of the sentence recommended.

Limitations

1. Please indicate the effect of the limitation (low response rate and cross-sectional study) on the result.

Minor revision

Table 1.

1. Please show the concrete p-value instead of writing it as “NS”.


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.