Reviewer's report

Title: A descriptive retrospective study of time consumption in home care services: how do employees use their working time? Use of geographic information systems for spatial analysis of home care services in two northern Norwegian municipalities.

Version: 1 Date: 22 May 2014

Reviewer: Jennifer Chipps

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
- Editing to improve structure of paragraphs.
- Background: Should be reworked and strengthened. Information should be provided about % of time actually spend on clinical work – there are a number of these studies published.
- Methodology description needs to be refined for clarity
- Study participants should include information on the number of HCR in these areas
- Study participants should be renamed Setting and 2 paragraphs merged
- Some of the Figures are unclear – not sure what I should be looking at in Figure 7 and Figure 3

Minor Essential Revisions
- First statement should be referenced.
- I would recommend not referring to HCS but Home Care Services throughout.
- Why this study- paragraph should be integrated and not be separate points
- Table footers to not include acronyms

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: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests