Reviewer's report

Title: The psychometric properties of the Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture in Dutch hospitals

Version: 1 Date: 28 May 2008

Reviewer: Panayota Sourtzi

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions
1. language should be improved in some places in order to be clearer.
2. in the data screening and pre-analyses section, 3rd paragraph, 1st line. Instead of "too much" write "very high correlations". There also should a reference in this paragraph to support what is written.
3. Statistical analysis, 2nd paragraph, 2nd line, add the word "concept" after "the same".
4. results, 3rd paragraph, add at the end of the 1st phrase "except for Communication Openness, that was the same".
5. Factor analysis, 2nd paragraph, the variance explained is not very high considering the number of factors. Discuss it in comparison to the AHQR study.
6. In the discussion section consider discussing:
   - how the scale properties are affected by the different answering patterns.
   - how the different organisation/health care structure in the Netherlands could have influenced the scale properties.
   - there is written in the background section that the scale has been translated into other languages. If there are published similar studies for those translations, it would be useful to compare with these studies, too.
7. Conclusions, consider changing the "a less high internal consistency" into "a lower consistency".

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'