Reviewer's report

Title: Managerial competencies of hospital managers in South Africa: A survey of managers in the public and private sectors

Version: 1 Date: 8 October 2007

Reviewer: Ansie Minnaar

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

The author must state the problem, purpose and research question/s for this research.

Clarify the cross-sectional survey. Why is it a cross-sectional survey? It seems more like a survey.

Which sampling method was used?

The instrument: Was this instrument developed by the author? If so the Cronbach's Alpha is fine, if not the Author should explain the low Cronbach’s Alpha for this research.

Explain the validity and reliability clearly for this study. Content validity, face validity and test-retest of instrument if this is a new instrument.

Was a confidence interval used? If not the author should state the power analysis for this research.

Table 3 The mean scores should be rather percentages. With ordinal data it is advisable to use percentages rather than mean and SD. Please check this.

Table 4 is not well described in the results. The items seem to be significant and the author should explain it. The using of mean should also be checked for ordinal data.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Table 1 all the percentages do not add up to 100, please check and make a statement underneath the Table regarding it. Primary formal qualification are 93.1%.

Check the references please: no 14 and 15 seem not to be in text or cited wrongly in the text.
Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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