Reviewer's report

Title: A modest start, but a steady rise in research use. A longitudinal study of nurses during the first five years in professional life.

Version: 2 Date: 10 November 2011

Reviewer: Anne Sales

Reviewer's report:

I have no additional revisions to suggest. I think the authors did a very good job in revising the paper. My only suggestion is to consider a method of adjusting for external environment that follows the model proposed in the chapter on interrupted time series by Shadish, Cook and Campbell, in which you would regress the data for each time point in the growth curve model on the external factors measured at that time. This would allow you to observe the effect of the latent growth model on adjusted time point data.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.