Reviewer's report

Title: Common mental disorder in Nyanza province, Kenya—prevalence and associated risk factors in 2013 and an assessment of change since 2004, using a repeat household survey in a demographic surveillance site

Version: 2
Date: 14 April 2015
Reviewer: Stephen Stansfeld

Reviewer's report:

This is a very interesting study of the prevalence of common mental disorders carried out in Kenya in 2013 compared to a previous similar survey carried out in 2004 in the same area. The results are interesting and unexpected in terms of a large increase in the prevalence of common mental disorder in women and a decline in men. The study is pioneering and important and emphasises the need for and usefulness of prevalence studies of common mental disorders in different cultural and social settings.

Minor essential revisions

Page 2, line 39
The odds ratio of 0.5 for 2-3 life events does not look right here?

Page 3, para 3
I'm not sure I understand these percentages. Are you saying that 60% of marriages involves spousal abuse and 53% of pregnancies are unplanned?

Page 6, line 170
I presume the CIS-R was used with the same cut-off of 12 or more in 2004? It might be helpful just to mention that.

Page 9, table 2 (page 24)
There seems to have been some conflation of two variables within the employment status categories. Is one of these testing positive for malaria parasites?

Discretionary Revisions

Page 10-11
The change in the gender difference in prevalence is very striking and somewhat surprising. Was the gender difference similar across all ages? Could the rapid population growth with an increasingly young population be stressful for the older population, particularly women?

Page 12, lines 341-343
It is interesting that rates of illness in the self-employed were higher than the unemployed. Why might that be? Does self-employment imply being a farmer or being particularly poor and having to fend for yourself?

Page 14
Could there be any issue of differential reporting by men and women? Was there any change in the proportion of male and female interviewers in 2013 compared to 2004?

**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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I have worked with Rachel Jenkins on the UK Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Surveys and we have both been authors on joint publications.