Reviewer’s report

Title: Satisfaction of family members with inpatient psychiatric care and its correlates: a national survey in China

Version: 0 Date: 08 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Tinakon Wongpakaran

Reviewer's report:

Dear authors,

I found the article "Satisfaction of family members with inpatient psychiatric care and its correlates: a national survey in China" interesting, however, some methodological approach raised some doubts to me.

Methodology
1) Does the discharged inpatient know that one of his/her family member is simultaneously rating for satisfaction?
2) How long for retest to administer since the first test?
3) The main concern of this study is the self-developed measurement and the method of analysis
4) The questionnaire has 5 item, which included the global satisfaction, therefore, this item seems to be duplicated with the total score (adding all 5 together). The global satisfaction item unrealistically inflates the Cronbach's α coefficient due to its duplication and should be excluded (and treat it as like total score)
5) Please provide the data on the Cronbach's α coefficient of the "inpatients" satisfaction questionnaire was 0.91 and the reliability of test-retest.

6) Stat analysis
6.1) The authors did not show data are normally distributed even though they treat them as continuous variable.
6.2) distribution of sample e.g. how many sample in each 32 sites
6.3) I wonder, in this case, a multilevel analysis would be more appropriate analyzing the whole sample (Table 3)

Results
1) It is important to provide the frequency (n and percentage) of each categorical response (very dissatisfied ◊ very satisfied) of each item in order to see how total score makes sense.

Discussion
The study gives us a sense of positive feeling (90%+ satisfaction). Therefore, when the authors stated that "In the same time, lack of trained professionals is contributing to dissatisfaction and the government and hospital administrators need to prioritize on hiring and retaining trained professionals to improve this situation, especially in some less developed regions in China.", it seems not to convince the readers about that. The authors may need to
show the result no.1 as suggested to emphasize how much the dissatisfaction display on that item.

Minor

Table 3 Satisfaction score and related factors analysis (mean ± standard deviation) - The word 'factor analysis' on this title seems confusing and misleading.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

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