Reviewer’s report

Title: The mental health of neurological doctors and nurses in Hunan Province, China during the initial stages of the COVID-19 outbreak

Version: 2 Date: 27 Jul 2020

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

Thank you for your thorough revision of this manuscript. I feel that all comments have been addressed sufficiently. I have just a couple of remaining comments that should be addressed prior to publication:

1. Thank you for providing additional information about the sampling methodology. Although, I do recognize the difficulty in obtaining a population-based sample at this time, this study used a convenience sample, which is not ideal for estimating prevalence due to selection bias. This should be noted in the limitations. Is there any reason to believe that the sample is different in key ways from the target population (i.e., all neurological clinicians in the region)? If so, it should be noted, and the potential impact on study results described. Also, was the sampling truly snowball sampling (individuals who participated then helped recruit additional participants), or was it simply a convenience sample?

2. There are some areas that could use proofreading for grammar. For example, the first sentence of the abstract is not a complete sentence. The first sentence in the Results section about prevalence should also be in past tense. An additional, thorough proofread would be helpful.

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Is the study design appropriate to answer the research question (including the use of appropriate controls), and are the conclusions supported by the evidence presented?

Yes

Are the methods sufficiently described to allow the study to be repeated?

Yes

Is the use of statistics and treatment of uncertainties appropriate?
Yes

Is the presentation of the work clear?

Yes

Are the images in this manuscript (including electrophoretic gels and blots) free from apparent manipulation?

Yes