Reviewer’s report

Title: Experiences of positive encounters with healthcare professionals among women on long-term sickness absence due to breast cancer or due to other diagnoses: A nationwide survey

Version: 1 Date: 28 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Miyako Takahashi

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript have been somewhat improved according to the reviewers' suggestions. However, I still doubt the comparability between BC groups and other groups. Although the authors state that the main reason of sickness absence among BC group is side effects of treatments not the cancer symptoms, it can apply to other types of early-stage cancer. Also, the age distribution and the depressive symptoms are significantly different. The authors could have focused on the data of BC patients only, or they could have compared all types of cancer patients with non-cancer patients. Because this comparability issue is too big to be considered as limitation, I advise the authors to re-analysis the data. The paper also needs language corrections.

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

No

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

No

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

No

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
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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