Reviewer’s report

Title: Educational inequalities in mortality associated with rheumatoid arthritis and other musculoskeletal disorders in Sweden

Version: 1 Date: 31 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Rebecca Cleveland

Reviewer's report:

The authors clearly put a lot of work into the revision and their thoughtfulness is appreciated. The comments have been adequately dealt with on most points, however a couple minor points:

1) You mention several times in your response that certain variables were not included in analyses (comorbidities in particular) because they were considered mediators and not confounders. This is a valid response, but if this is the case, was a mediation analysis considered?

2) And a related comment--having large amounts of missing data is not necessarily a good reason for excluding important variables. Were sensitivity analyses carried out on a subset of the population where data (comorbidities, etc) that WERE available? (see mediation analysis above)

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.

Yes

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

Acceptable

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