Reviewer’s report

Title: Path modeling of knowledge, attitude and practice toward palliative care consultation service among Taiwanese nursing staff: A cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 23 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Joy V. Goldsmith

Reviewer’s report:

The writers describe a cross-sectional study design using a convenience sampling to examine the knowledge, attitude, and practice of PCCS among 284 nursing staff in a medical center in North Taiwan. The results express causality between PCCS referrals and knowledge, attitude, and practice toward PCCS of nursing staff.

The international reach of this journal makes this work particularly applicable. Many of the issues and predictors in this study are recognizable to most parts of the world with health systems.

This article is concise and clear, though a few language errors are present in the manuscript. The overall meaning and design of the piece is very strong.

Explain the inclusion characteristics for nurses. How were they recruited/incentivized? Where was the collection of data performed? How long did it take?

ON page 9 at the bottom there is a description of an expert panel for validity. This should be furthered explained—why it was used, and how are the members experts (beyond their disciplinary area of practice), and what actions did they performed in helping establish validity?

What reasoning is offered to explain ward divisions in findings?

Your work is consonant with work performed in the US—that training and exposure are the pathways to increased provision of palliative care.

On page 16 there is some strange spacing.

What are conservative folk customs—please explain embarrassment and stigma discussed in the limitations section.

There is great homogeneity in sample—so this needs some explanation—that it is representative of the care systems in Taiwan and therefore an accurate picture of how nursing practice may impact palliative care access—some further explanation of the profile of these nurses—to orient readers from other parts of the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to read this work. Best wishes in your endeavors.
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
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Needs some language corrections before being published

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