Reviewer’s report

Title: The Association Between Hope, Marital Status, Depression and Persistent Pain in Men and Women Following Cardiac Surgery

Version: 0 Date: 13 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Suzanne Fredericks

Reviewer’s report:

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Good initial draft of manuscript. This secondary analysis aims to examine the Association Between Hope, Marital Status, Depression and Persistent Pain in Men and Women Following Cardiac Surgery; however revisions are needed:

1) the paper begins with an overview of CVD, symptoms, and self-management following surgery. It then moves to a discussion of hope. The transition into the discussion on hope is missing. This discussion then leads into the study purpose, which focuses on differences between men and women on several factors following heart surgery. In the introduction, the need to examine differences between men and women was not provided. The concept of sex was not introduced. What is the purpose of this study based on?

2) a theoretical presentation that defines and shows the proposed/anticipated relationships between key variables is needed

3) inclusion of a framework or theory would help to provide context to the discussion. Also, what are the limitations and clinical implications of this study and the findings, respectively.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
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Yes

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No
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

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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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Acceptable

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