Reviewer’s report

Title: The important factors in clinical competency of Iranian nurses: A Qualitative Study

Version: 4 Date: 16 July 2014

Reviewer: Simon Woods

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for submitting this paper, you raise some interesting issues and I believe that it is important for work of this kind coming from countries such as Iran to be published. This said there are some quite serious problems with the manuscript in its present form.

Major revisions
1. You need to seek advice from a good speaker of English with some copy editing skills
2. You should be absolutely clear about the translation of certain concepts e.g. ‘work conscience’ and give an explanation of other concepts such as ‘character’
3. You make too many rather grand claims about ethics and nursing in your introduction, I am not sure that you need them but if you feel they are necessary then you need to substantially revise your claims, explain and justify your points more clearly.
4. Your methods section needs revision, it could be shortened but it needs English revision. Also You need a better rational explaining why this study.
5. Your findings seem to be a rather odd collection of themes - could be improved in the light of a better methods/ rational section and you need to do much more work to explain the meaning of these concepts and draw out the implications for practice in your discussion and conclusion.

I am sorry that this sounds rather negative but you do have interesting data and ideas.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.