Reviewer's report

Title: Factors determining the patients' care intensity for surgeons and surgical nurses: A conjoint analysis

Version: 4  Date: 27 March 2015

Reviewer: Wanrudee Isaranuwatchai

Reviewer's report:

Overall
This manuscript is addressing an interesting topic in an methodologically appropriate way. The overall question was well defined. The methods were appropriate and the data were sound. The authors also used a checklist to guide the reporting and conduct of the analysis, which was great. Given the limited space, the discussion explained the findings and the conclusion summarized the overall project. A few limitations were discussed. The mentioning of the implications of the work was helpful.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. Consider including an objective in the abstract.
2. Please proofread the manuscript (e.g., use of punctuation).
3. Acronym should be introduced when used the first time (e.g., CA on page 3, line 89).
4. Page 4, line 115: possible instead of possibly?
5. Page 4, line 118: What were the basis of how attributes were divided? In other words, what did appropriate number of levels refer to?
6. Page 5, line 130: "...were invited to participate in the questionnaire."
7. Page 6: brief elaboration on what higher or lower care intensity score refers to may be helpful.
8. Page 9, line 218: report the actual number of attributes (not just state several).
9. Page 10: First sentence is an incomplete sentence.
10. Page 10 line 264: Brief comment on how to deal with possible interaction may be helpful.
11. Last paragraph on page 10 should be a part of the previous paragraph.
12. Implications of the work were mentioned in the conclusion. If space is available, it may be helpful to elaborate on the implications including future research in the discussion.
13. Figure 1 could be clearer.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.