Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of physicians' stress related to information systems: A nine-year follow-up survey study

Version: 0 Date: 30 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Johannes Siegrist

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This study provides important new knowledge on a topic of major interest to this Journal's audience. It demonstrates, based on a prospective study design with a large cohort of physicians, that high cognitive workload increases stress related to coping with information systems (SRIS). Moreover, changes of several work-related stressors between the two measurements in 2006 and 2015 exert negative effects on SRIS.

The manuscript is clearly written, the methods used are appropriate, and the international state of art is well incorporated. The presentation and discussion of results is in accordance with established quality criteria, and the conclusions are justified by the main findings.

Despite these merits several queries need to be addressed:

1. On p.8, line 16ff. authors indicate a sample loss that is quite substantial. In the Discussion section a potential selection bias may be discussed (e.g. underestimation of effects as highly stressed physicians had a higher probability of leaving the hospital).

2. On p. 9, line 7: the Cronbach's Alpha of this scale has to be inserted!

3. Throughout the text, authors' arguments are closely related to the Finnish context. One wonders whether they might comment on the generalization of their findings to other high income countries, at least in the Discussion section.

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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