Reviewer's report

**Title:** What is the working status of medical staff in pilot county-level public hospitals and their cognition to the reform: A study of public hospital reform in Hubei province of China

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 17 May 2013

**Reviewer:** Edson Araujo

**Reviewer's report:**

- **Minor Essential Revisions**

1. Please review abstract - for example, it would be good to see objectives and question paper aims to address in the abstract;

2. Some of the points discussed in the discussion/conclusions should be in the background, especially the ones that explain the reform;

3. Using graphs and tables would make the presentation of the results more reader friendly instead of describing too many percentages;

4. Please review the use of references within the text, some are incorrectly quoted;

- **Discretionary Revisions**

1. The data collected seem to be very rich and extensive, a more sound statistical analysis would provide good insights not only on the impact of the hospital reform on medical staff but could address broader issues related to human resources for health in China. Therefore, I strongly advise a thorough revision of the analysis to incorporate statistical methods that could help to answer relevant research and policy questions on the topic.

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

=> NO TO ALL QUESTIONS ABOVE.