Reviewer's report

Title: Population levels of wellbeing and the association with social capital

Version: 2 Date: 06 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Dorina Cadar

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript entitled 'Population levels of wellbeing and the association with social capital' aims to evaluate the association between wellbeing and social capital in 5,551 randomly selected adults from the South Australian Monthly chronic disease risk factor surveillance system.

I think the manuscript needs to be refined and further articulate it. The main objective and methods are not clear:

1. Abstract

Objective: To detail wellbeing is not specifically clear.

Method: Incomplete: no indication of participants age, statistical analyses not clearly specified and in relation to what (e.g. multi nominal modeling of what?)

2. Introduction

Too much info on geography and government plans.

You don't discuss the criticism of large-scale programs intended to build on wellbeing until the aim is stated.

3. Method

Ethics are described on page 5 and again on page 8.
The manuscript lacks focus and depth into the main aspects that need to be investigated, the challenges in defining these concepts and the potential overlap in measures.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**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.

Unable to assess

**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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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