Reviewer's report

Title: Sociodemographic and socioeconomic differences in sleep duration and insomnia-related symptoms in Finnish adults

Version: 1 Date: 17 May 2012

Reviewer: Martha E. Billings

Reviewer's report:

Overall a fascinating epidemiological study using a large data base representative of the Finnish population. The social determinants of sleep are important to understand given the high prevalence of insomnia and chronic sleep deprivation in modern society.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
None

Minor Essential Revisions:
p. 4, grammar error - last sentence: insomnia *is* more prevalent (instead of are)
p. 5 2nd paragraph, 2nd sentence -- needs punctuation to clarify.
p. 5, 1st paragraph on methods - move sample size to after "the sample (n=8028)"
p. 6, move up 79% to after returned questionnaires
p.7 middle paragraph, 3rd sentence is unclear
p. 15, 2nd paragraph 5th sentence needs revision, "of about"

Discretionary Revisions
1. Methods: consider flow chart to clarify study population
2. Results: list of OR& CI a bit excessive, consider only including a few and referring to table for most of results. Instead just highlight unexpected or strong associations.
3. Discussion: Limitations are a bit wordy and repetitive, childhood SES by parental education mentioned several times; would not describe a data over the "life course" in strengths and also mention as limitation. Would condense.
4. Discussion: Section on use of hypnotics not true limitation since could adjust for it; would mention that in the methods, results and that also had alcohol use data, since associated w/ SES and sleep habits. Would include alcohol and hypnotic use habits in table 1.
5. Discussion: Strengths -- the study is generalizable to Finns, but probably not beyond N Europe given the socioeconomic structure which differs from the US and 3rd world countries.
6. In regards to Finns, given the dramatic differences in daylight over the year (short days in winter, long days in summer), was there any analysis examining changes by season or adjusting for time of year of survey?

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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.