Reviewer's report

Title: The development of general practice as an academic discipline in Germany - an analysis of research output between 2000 and 2010

Version: 3 Date: 30 April 2012

Reviewer: Lewis D Ritchie

Reviewer's report:

General comments: this article seeks to establish the changing quality and quantity of primary care research publications in Germany over an eleven year period, with two four year research periods (2000-2003; 2004-2007) compared to a three year period (2008-2010). Methods and analysis appear appropriate.

Major compulsory revisions: It would have been more logical to compare three equal time periods. Is it possible to add in the data for 2011 to allow this to happen? If not the authors should justify this.

Minor Essential Revisions

More could have been made comparing Germany to other countries in the Discussion section - particularly in relation to Reference 1.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.