

January 29, 2007

Re: Ms #2006/075 -- Second review

Dear Dr. Chang:

Recently you sent your revised manuscript for consideration by *Nursing Research*. The second review (from Reviewer #3) of your manuscript is complete and the following revisions are requested:

"If cluster sampling is used, then the appropriate method is not standard regression since this does not account for possible dependence within the clusters. However, regression models which do account for such possible dependence can be used instead using related methods like linear mixed modeling, hierarchical linear modeling, and multilevel modeling. One can follow the standard mediating/moderating analysis approach using the same fixed effects, but including correlations or random effects to account for possible dependence within clusters. It may be that the impact of cluster sampling is not substantive, so that the original regression analysis was appropriate, but that can only be determined through accounting for cluster sampling in the first place. It may also be that this is substantive, and that would be important information. Accounting for cluster sampling could change the conclusions about mediation/moderation or it could strengthen them."

Please revise your manuscript based on the above comments and resubmit the manuscript to *Nursing Research* for further consideration. E-mail your re-revised manuscript with responses to Sherry Handfinger at handfing@email.unc.edu. Explicitly outline how you addressed each of the issues raised. Please use the attached copy edited version of your manuscript.

Please send these revisions at your earliest convenience and notify us in regard to your intent to revise the manuscript.

Let me know if you have any questions or need further information at this time preferably by email. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Molly C. Dougherty, PhD, RN
Editor