Reviewer's report

Title: Trial of an educational intervention on patients' knowledge of atrial fibrillation and anticoagulant therapy, INR control, and outcome of Treatment with warfarin (TREAT)

Version: 2 Date: 28 April 2010

Reviewer: Eric Smith

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revision: The authors have adequately responded to the criticisms and suggestions; the only exception is that the statistical calculation of the sample size is still not fully specified. I think the authors are describing the use of a 2-sample t-test for the calculation of the sample size. Presumably the authors will compare the difference in mean TTR between the intervention group and the control group using the 2-sample t-test. (Note that the statistical method used to test the primary hypothesis, such as whether it will be a 2-sample t-test, should be pre-specified and included in the "Statistical analyses" section). If this supposition is correct, then the hypothesized mean difference between the study groups and the standard deviation of the TTR measurements can be used to calculate the sample size required. I still don't understand what "...a difference of 3% in the standard deviation of the TTR..." means (Sample size, 1st paragraph). The exact anticipated mean difference in TTR between the intervention and control groups, and the standard deviation used for the sample size calculation, should be specified.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.