Reviewer's report

Title: Suitability of adherence measures for routine clinical practice: A systematic review

Version: 1 Date: 17 May 2011

Reviewer: Sunil Kripalani

Reviewer's report:

This well-written article provides a useful summary of measures of self-reported adherence. I have several suggestions to help further improve the paper.

Major compulsory revisions:
- Table 3 has many redundancies with tables 1 and 2. Tables should be consolidated so there are only 2, or better yet, just 1 wide table.
- The authors are well-positioned to make recommendations about which specific measures are most promising for use in clinical practice, and should do so.

Minor essential revisions:
- The authors should provide citations to each instrument in table 1 as well.
- In table 2, it is not necessary to state "significant association" or "no significant association"; simply provide the statistical test results.
- State in the results text how many abstracts or articles were screened.
- I disagree with the statement on page 14 that "Measures that did not specify a time period would not be able to demonstrate change when repeated over time." Patients could be instructed via the instructions to have a certain period of time in mind as they respond. Alternatively, their adherence could be assessed in general, and compared to a later assessment.

Discretionary revisions:
- The introduction could be shortened.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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