Reviewer's report

Title: A Mobile Phone Application for the Assessment and Management of Youth Mental Health Problems in Primary Care: A Randomised Controlled Trial

Version: 3 Date: 23 September 2011

Reviewer: Karen A Hacker

Reviewer's report:

This article on the impact of a mobilephone intervention on the mental health of adolescents seen in primary care is well written and quite complete.

I only have a few suggestions that would be considered minor essential revisions.

1) please describe the safety plan for adolescents who were enrolled and began to display more concerning mental health behaviors during the interventions. This was not included in your excellent description of the intervention and the methods. You do mention that there were regular reports but not how frequently the GP reviewed them during the trial and what they would do if the reports suggested increased ESA issues.

2) I would like to see additional information in the discussion section on why you believe that the changes in ESA were not seen until the 6 week post rather than at the immediate post intervention period. I wondered why this would be the case that those in the intervention group would decrease more than the comparison group particularly since you describe the actions of the GPS for both groups. Overall, it appears that the comparison group had a lesser severity of mental health symptoms to begin with but why the lag time for impact? Please add something that describes whether you believe that this intervention might have better implications for teaching and learning that stays with an adolescent longer and how adolescent development might play into this.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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