Reviewer's report

Title: Self-Management Experiences among Men and Women with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Qualitative Analysis

Version: 1 Date: 19 August 2012

Reviewer: Luis Rustveld

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The purpose of this qualitative study was to explore diabetes management experiences, specifically needs, challenges, and barriers identified by men and women.

Well written paper on a timely and important topic. However, there are areas of the manuscript that require clarification and, in my opinion, would preclude publication in its present form. The following are general comments and suggestions for improvement:

1) The abstract is lacking in details about the study population. For example, age, and number of participants.

2) In the first sentence of the Methods section, authors mention "culturally diverse." What exactly is culturally diverse in this population and how could this affect self-management, if at all?

3) What were participants medical regimen, and adequacy of DM control. How has this affected diabetes self-management?

4) Why 3-8 participants in each focus group? How did authors conclude that 3-8 participants was sufficient for this type of analysis?

5) Where were transcripts kept? Confidentiality and anonymity?

6) Since themes were identified, it would help to add number of participants to each theme in order to support why authors chose the quotes related to the theme (e.g. 10 out of 35).

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.