Reviewer's report

Title: Barriers to successful recruitment of parents of overweight children for an obesity prevention intervention: a qualitative study among youth health care professionals

Version: 3 Date: 9 March 2012

Reviewer: Karin Hannes

Reviewer's report:

Dear editor, authors,

I feel that all of my comments have been addressed, accept the one on the type of design used (1st query). I have the feeling that the author team may not be fully aware of what design they have used, if any. They describe an interview technique, instead of describing the design. This is similar to stating that you have used questionnaires but then don't specify whether you have conducted a cross-sectional or a longitudinal study. From the information added to the paper it is my guts feeling that the actual design used is an embedded mixed method design, of which the results of the embedded qualitative part in the trial are reported in a separate paper. But I am not sure of what the actual design intention was and I can only make a rough guess. This is important methodological information, which should have been added as a way of showing that there has been some epistemological reflexivity within the team on the qualitative part.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests other than being a qualitative methodologist.