Reviewer's report

Title: Understanding "revolving door" patients in general practice: a qualitative study

Version: 1  Date: 20 November 2013

Reviewer: Stephen Abbott

Reviewer's report:

I enjoyed this interesting and well-written account of a well-designed and useful piece of research, which in general easily meets standards for publication.

Minor essential revisions

There are three fairly small points which I think should be addressed before publication.

First, it would be useful to have a small number of selected findings from the previous analysis of routine data (ref. 14).

Second, I’m not convinced that the first two data extracts in the category ‘Unreasonable expectations’ actually illustrate and exemplify that theme.

Third, the account of Kelly and May (1982) in the Discussion is not clear to someone unfamiliar with this paper. On the one hand, Kelly and May are reported as saying that the studies reviewed located good and bad characteristics in the patients (e.g. unreasonable expectations and inappropriate behaviour) rather than professional opinions (p.15). On the other, the literature is then said to be based on the assumption that the problem is the fault of poor professionalism (p.16).

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.