Reviewer's report

Title: How communication affects prescription decisions in consultations for acute illness in children: A systematic review and meta-ethnography.

Version: 2
Date: 3 February 2014
Reviewer: Sarah Tonkin-Crine

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript presents a systematic review and meta-ethnography on how communication influences prescribing decisions in consultations for acute illness in children. The review provides a useful and insightful summary of existing qualitative research in this area whilst providing an additional level of interpretation which could not otherwise have been obtained. The manuscript identifies important misunderstandings which may occur in consultations between parents of young children and clinicians and identifies a specific area for future interventions to address.

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  1. Figure 2 is not available to view in the document for review and needs to be added.

- Minor Essential Revisions
  1. Abstract, results, line 10; should be “most were ambiguous”.
  2. Background, paragraph 3, sentence 1; should be “antibiotic prescribing” and “the effectiveness of interventions”.
  3. Methods, data synthesis, line 10; should be “in different studies a translation”, delete the word “and”.
  4. Results, study quality, line 2; should be “insufficient detailed reporting”
  5. Results, theme 1, line 3; missing space at “other styles indicated”
  6. Results, theme 2, line 2; “the most common form of diagnosis”
  7. Results, theme 5, line 2; additional spaces.
  8. Discussion, paragraph 3 line 10; should be “so that when parents perceive”

- Discretionary Revisions
  1. Background, end of paragraph 2; could add recent reference from the Lancet - Little P, et al. on behalf of the GRACE consortium. The effect of web-based training in communication skills and an interactive patient booklet and the use of

**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.