Author’s response to reviews

Title: Finding a BETTER way: A qualitative study exploring the Prevention Practitioner intervention to improve chronic disease prevention and screening in family practice

Authors:

Donna P Manca (dpmanca@ualberta.ca)
Greiver Michelle (mgreiver@rogers.com)
June C Carroll (jcarroll@mtsinaion.ca)
Salvalaggio Ginetta (ginetta@ualberta.ca)
Andrew Cave (acave@ualberta.ca)
Jess Rogers (jess.rogers@effectivepractice.org)
James Pencharz (James.Pencharz@trilliumhealthpartners.ca)
Carolina Aguilar (Carolina.Aguilar@ualberta.ca)
Rebekah Barrett (rebeckahmbarrett@gmail.com)
Shelley Bible (Shelley.Bible@covenanthealth.ca)
Eva Grunfeld (Eva.Grunfeld@utoronto.ca)

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Dear BMC Family Practice Editors,

Re: Finding a BETTER way: A Qualitative Study of the Building on Existing Tools to Improve Chronic Disease Prevention and Screening in Family Practice

We appreciate your consideration of this paper for publication in the BMC Family Practice journal. This qualitative project describes a framework to improve chronic disease prevention and screening (CDPS) in the family practice settings through the use of a clinician within the practice with specialized training in CDPS.

We originally considered publishing this paper in Annals of Family Medicine. However, we are interested in an international scope, a wider electronic media spread and we also prefer the ability to continue to use our figures and illustrations, hence BMC Family Practice is the journal of our choice.
Our original BETTER (Building on Existing Tools to Improve CDPS project involved a pragmatic randomized controlled trial aimed to determine whether chronic disease prevention and screening could be improved in the family practice setting using: 1) a practice-level intervention, and/or 2) a patient-level intervention through a prevention visit with a specially-trained existing member of the family practice team, the prevention practitioner (PP). A significant improvement was found in the patient-level intervention group and a paper has been submitted and accepted for publication in BMC Family Practice. This unique paper describes the qualitative study conducted to better understand the positive results of the BETTER project and complements our previous publication.

We certify that this manuscript represents original work. All authors have reviewed the final version and approved it for publication. This manuscript is not being considered for publication by any other journal. It will not be submitted to any other journal while it is under consideration by BMC Family Practice.

We certify that all individuals listed as authors of this manuscript have participated in collecting the data, and in writing or critically editing the manuscript. We certify that there is no conflict of interest in this submission.