Reviewer's report

Title: Characteristics of communication guidelines that facilitate or impede guideline use: a focus group study

Version: 4 Date: 6 December 2006

Reviewer: Jozien Bensing

Reviewer’s report:

General

It seems that there is a fundamental difference in viewpoint about the validity of the use of the concept of 'guidelines' in relationship to the literature described. After having read the new version and the coverletter, and after having consulted some colleagues about this issue, I am afraid that I cannot change my viewpoint. Therefore my former comments remain valid.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No